

THE North-China Herald

and Supreme Court & Consular Gazette

THE WEEKLY EDITION OF THE NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS

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SHANGHAI, SATURDAY, JANUARY 9, 1915

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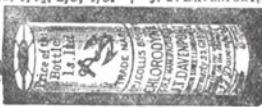
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The North-China Herald

IMPARTIAL NOT NEUTRAL.

SHANGHAI, JAN. 9, 1915.

THE MYSTERY OF H. M. S. AUDACIOUS.

Jan. 8.

So far as concerns the question whether H.M.S. Audacious is still afloat or not—that is up to the time when the last telegrams were despatched from London, and we trust no accident has befallen the great battleship since then—there is, of course, no mystery. Had the Admiralty made no statement at all bearing on the matter, it is just possible that it might have been "sitting on" the news of the disaster, although the promptitude with which all British naval reverses, however disheartening, have been announced renders even this theory highly improbable. But since October 27, on which all reports are agreed as the date of the alleged sinking of the Audacious in Lough Swilly, we have had repeated and emphatic denials by the Admiralty of any truth whatsoever in German reports of losses to the British Navy, battleships or others, except such as have been announced from London. Here then is the mystery. On November 28 the "Scientific American," which is not a paper accustomed to lend itself to "scares" or to be easily hoodwinked, published a photograph of H.M.S. Audacious, and another of a large vessel, certainly similar to the Audacious, in the act of sinking, underneath which is printed, "This view, taken from the deck of the Olympic, shows her boats assisting in the rescue of the crew." The photograph is marked, "Copyright International News Service," and there is a long article explaining how the Audacious came to be off the north coast of Ireland, and the reasons for believing that she was

not sunk by a submarine but by striking a mine.

So much for photography. On the other hand, the "New York Times," a paper second to none in the world for carefulness as to the accuracy of its news, published on November 17 an interview with Dr. J. C. H. Beaumont, surgeon on board the Olympic, who emphatically denied that that ship had ever witnessed the sinking of the Audacious or taken part in the saving of her crew. The Olympic, which had left New York on October 21 bound for Greenock, put into Lough Swilly instead of proceeding direct to Greenock, on October 28, in consequence of wireless messages warning the commander of mines. On the morning of October 29 Dr. Beaumont left the ship, having been transferred to the Baltic. The Olympic proceeded to Belfast where she was laid up on November 3, the crew of 900, excepting some officers and engineers, being paid off and sent home to Liverpool. Actually at the time the Olympic was supposed to have seen the Audacious sink she was about 600 miles from Lough Swilly. "I cannot say whether the Audacious was blown up by a mine or torpedoed off the coast of Ireland," said Dr. Beaumont, "but I can vouch for the fact that neither the passengers nor crew of the Olympic saw or heard anything of such a disaster." Now it is out of the question for those who maintain that the Audacious was sunk to shift the ground of their charge. They have taken their stand upon the morning of October 27, and Lough Swilly, as the time and place of the disaster, and have, with a photograph, subpoenaed the Olympic as a witness, notwithstanding her *alibi* of 600 miles. Again, we may dismiss, with apologies for even suggesting it, any idea that Dr. Beaumont was not speaking the truth. A thousand tongues of crew and passengers were able to contradict him and, as he very reasonably says, "it would be a matter of impossibility to keep some members of the crew from talking if they had taken part in such a gallant deed as rescuing the crew of a British battleship. They would mention it either in confidence to their families or over a friendly glass at their favourite house of call for refreshment in Liverpool."

What then becomes of the photograph? Our own belief is

that it is a remarkably clever fake and an unusually deep ruse on the part of the German Press Bureau, and that the International News Service, which supplied the photograph to newspapers, has been victimized. Years before the marvels of cinematograph conjuring became as common as they are now, every amateur photographer knew the absurdity of the saying that "photography cannot lie." Anybody could get photographs of the Audacious, and the rest of the fake would be easy. Moreover, the German Press Bureau had far more to gain than the mere spreading of a report that Britain had lost a battleship. The crew were, in any case, supposed to have been saved, and the loss of the ship would be made good, and more than good, before the end of the year. But if the German Press Bureau could sully the unblemished reputation of the British Government for speaking the truth, it would achieve a very great success. Long before October 27 it had been made abundantly plain to all the world that no German statement is worth the breath that voices it or the paper on which it is printed. If, then, people's confidence in British official statements could once be shaken, and therewith their belief in British *démentis* of German falsehood, something might be done to rehabilitate Germany's ruined character for veracity. In fact, when it faked that photograph of the Audacious, the German Press Bureau aimed at something higher and infinitely more difficult to acquire than any battleships—a reputation for speaking the truth. But truth, proverbially, lies hidden deep, too deep now for Germany ever to bring it to light—as deep indeed as the bottom of Lough Swilly.

NOTES & COMMENTS.

Jan. 7.

THE WORK OF BRITISH AVIATORS.

Many tributes have been paid to the Royal Flying Corps, but few facts concerning its work in France have passed the censor. Consequently some of the statements made by Mr. H. Massac Buis in his book "Aircraft in the German War" are particularly interesting if not a little astonishing. Not only did the aviators convoy the troops across the Channel, but every one of the machines sent to the front has flown to its base in the field. There was not a single mishap on the journey, and at the date of the

publication of the book referred to, Great Britain had at least one aeroplane and flier to every 1,800 men of the land forces employed. The average extent of the daily reconnaissance by air from the beginning of the operations was 2,000 miles. Flights are undertaken regularly by day and night and doubtless this is how the great German move towards Calais was discovered. The machines are used up much more rapidly than the aviators, and there is a constant supply of new machines, thoroughly tested, flying over from England, while hundreds of reserve aviators are waiting for a call to the front. Moreover the seaplanes of the Naval Wing are believed to be the best in the world, while our much-despised, by some, dirigibles are efficiently performing regular duties.

GEOGRAPHY.

The reference made in Lord Curzon's farewell address to the Royal Geographical Society (reported elsewhere to-day) to the new attention devoted in schools and colleges to the study of geography is very welcome. So far this study has been disgracefully neglected. In most secondary schools it was taken for granted that one had already learnt all the geography that was necessary, such knowledge in point of fact being usually limited to the county capitals of England with the important addition of "Berlin on the Spree" and "Madrid on the Manzanares." Afterwards one learnt to draw maps of the ancient dominions of Greece and Rome, and possibly a plan of the battle of Marston Moor. How many people educated twenty years ago could confidently give the boundaries of British Nyasaland, or of the Kamerun—though one recalls an old preference for spelling it Cameroons? During the present war one has learnt much geography and longed to know more. One has also made the regrettable discovery that German maps are better than English. That is a point on which the new study of geography might well be stimulated by British geographers.

GLIMPSES OF WAR.

The British people have been told that it is their duty to veil the doings of the fleet in mystery; apparently it is taken for granted that Lord Kitchener is well able to conceal information about the army. But we get occasional glimpses of the doings of the navy and army which speak volumes. A few days ago we were permitted to publish extracts from a letter received by a Shanghai resident from his brother serving in France. The picture drawn of the "poor little

Gurkhas" being shelled in their trenches has a tragic counterpart in the way 300 of them handled a dense mass of Germans. Another letter gave some idea of the terrible life the troops have to live in trenches half filled by ice and water; yet the same writer bore testimony to their cheerfulness. To-day we have another picture from the fleet which is keeping "watch and ward" in the North Sea. With the ship cleared for action, the men standing at their stations, Christmas Day was celebrated by the holding of Divine Service. We in Shanghai depend on such glimpses for the little we know of this war, and such pictures send the blood tingling through the veins.

Jan. 8.

WOMAN AND WAR.

The appeal to women to put an end to war, issued by the World Peace Foundation, Boston, is one that deserves serious consideration. The task is a gigantic one: it cannot be accomplished in a few years or without persistent endeavour. For each argument advanced in support of the abolition of armaments and the institution of an international government of control, an international court, an international police and a more complete world organization, there are two that may be cited in opposition. A great change has to be wrought in human beings before such sweeping reforms can be attempted or, if introduced, become efficacious. Granted that "this war is the greatest outrage that was ever forced upon an unwilling civilization," once it was entered upon few women hesitated to give their men to defend causes which they believed to be right or to give themselves in an effort to stem suffering. In the belligerent nations the women are as determined as the men, therefore the appeal to American women to do all they can to prevent the possibility of a repetition of such a cataclysm is made in the right quarter. When the war is over the appeal may be extended, but the cause of international peace will gain nothing in Europe by any arguments based upon a desire for "woman's participation in public office and public life," coupled with quotations from the speeches of militant suffragettes.

UNHAPPY ALBANIA.

Recent telegrams reporting the arrival of Italian infantry in Valona give colour to the assertion that Turkish officers have been instigating the Mohammedans, in the name of a holy war, to rebel against Essad Pasha, the Governor of Albania. Essad Pasha took control when Prince William of Wied, after an unfortunate term of office as Prince of Albania, left to join the

German army. It is clear that a serious rebellion has been fomented; Essad Pasha's palace at Chirana has been destroyed by fire and a number of Government partisans have been murdered. Austria, with her hands full of work elsewhere, is extremely jealous of the occupation of Valona by Italy, and the neutrality of the latter in the European war has served to accentuate the conflict of interests in the Balkans which has long existed between the two countries. Nevertheless there appears to be a determination in Rome to do everything possible to alleviate the situation in Albania and, if recent reports are correct, Italy has a difficult task in hand. Austria, if she has any responsibility for the present uprising, as is suggested, is playing with another fire at a critical moment in her history.

THE TASK OF THE ALLIES.

Turkey provides an excellent example of the danger of assisting other countries to rise from impotence to strength. In her case, it is true, she has not made the most of her opportunities. Nevertheless the British Naval Mission in Constantinople reorganized the Turkish navy and brought it as much up to modern standards as was possible in such a country of political corruption. Moreover, Messrs. Armstrong and Vickers formed the Imperial Ottoman Naval Construction Company in Constantinople, and issued a considerable amount of bonds as late as last July; fortunately only a small part of the money was forwarded to the Turkish capital. On the other hand the German Military Mission can claim that what has been done for Turkey has been turned to Germany's account, while Turkey is slipping down the road to destruction. It is regrettable, but the present war points to a policy of national selfishness as the best insurance against peril. The task of the Allies is to prove to the world that consideration for others pays in the long run and that mere selfish scheming and aggression will not be tolerated.

PANAMA CANAL DUES.

A sum of nearly G.\$750,000 was collected in tolls from vessels using the Panama Canal between August 1 and November 1. This is not a large dividend upon the country's investment, but it must be considered encouraging in a time of war, with the waterway not yet formally opened. The most significant feature of the returns is that the sum named chiefly represents payments by American coastwise shipping. Without these payments the receipts would have been practically negligible. This is a distinct triumph for President Wilson, and would alone completely justify his strong advocacy of the repeal of the tolls exemption clause, even if no other considerations had actuated him.

FRENCH SUCCESSES IN ALSACE.

AMERICAN NOTE ON CONTRABAND TO GREAT BRITAIN.

RUSSIAN VICTORIES OVER TURKS AND AUSTRIANS.

FRIDAY, Jan. 1.

GERMANS ACTIVE ON THE AISNE.

Through Reuter's Agency.

Paris, Dec. 30.

The *communiqué* issued this afternoon states:

"In Belgium we gained a little ground at Nieuport opposite Polders to the north of Lombaertzyde. The enemy violently bombarded St. Georges, which we had placed in a state of defence.

We carried some German *points d'appui* south-east of Zonnebeke, between Baecelaere and Passendale.

There is nothing to report from the Lys to the Oise.

The enemy displayed a recrudescence of activity along the Aisne and in Champagne and there was an especially violent bombardment, to which we effectively replied.

We made slight progress in the Argonne in the region of Four-de-Paris. There was a cannonade along the whole front between the Argonne and the Moselle, which was especially intense along the heights of the Meuse.

The enemy, in the Vosges, attacked Tete-de-faux and were repulsed.

We are consolidating our positions in Upper Alsace. Our heavy artillery has silenced some mortars which were bombarding Asbach.

Paris, Dec. 30.

The official *communiqué* issued this evening states that nothing important had happened during the day.

THE ZEPPELIN RAID ON NANCY.

[FROM BRITISH LEGATION, PEKING.]

London, Dec. 29.

A recent German statement says that the Zeppelin raid over Nancy was a reprisal for the French attack on Freiburg. French aviators, however, only attacked points of military importance, airship sheds and railway stations, while the Germans dropped bombs in the middle of the town, where only the civil population could suffer.

THE STRUGGLE IN POLAND.

DETERMINED GERMAN ATTACKS.

[FROM RUSSIAN LEGATION, PEKING.]

Petrograd, Dec. 30.

A calmness has set in on the whole front west of the Vistula, except at Bolimow on the Bzura, Inowloz on the Pilica, and south of Malageszcz near the lower Nida, where stubborn fighting continued.

The Germans, advancing from Bolimow under a concentrated fire, rushed Gospodskiyvor, Borjimeff, and our trenches at Gumin. We made a violent counter-attack and all of the enemy who had gained a footing in our position were slain, except a few tens who were taken prisoners. We captured several quick-firers. The Germans suffered enormous losses here, as they kept sending regiments after regiments against our position.

At Inowloz we captured the German trenches in the south suburb. We rushed them after a stubborn fight.

We repulsed an attack by the enemy south of Malageszcz, which they delivered after a prolonged artillery fire. The enemy captured our trenches at Boginetz, but we retook them by a counter-attack.

We are successfully advancing in Western Galicia, east of Zakliczyn. We stormed part of the enemy's fortifications and captured forty-four officers, 1,500 men and eight quick firers.

West of Dukla we delivered a series of bayonet attacks and repulsed the Austrians from fortified positions at Kremni and Talaw; part of the Austrian forces fled in panic. We also obtained considerable success south of Lyske at Gerjarki. Counter-attacks by the enemy in the Carpathians at Ujok Pass and new sorties by the Przemyśl garrison were repulsed.

AN UNSUCCESSFUL AUSTRIAN ATTACK.

Cetinje, Dec. 30.

The Austrians, on the 28th, attacked the Montengrins' Herze-

govina army, and a fierce artillery fight developed. The enemy was repulsed with heavy losses.

Austrian aeroplanes flew over Grahoff and Antivari and used quickfirers, but did not damage.

THE RUSSIAN OFFENSIVE AGAINST TURKEY.

[FROM BRITISH LEGATION, PEKING.]

London, Dec. 29.

The Russian Caucasus Staff reports that a movement of large Turkish forces was checked in the region of Olti, where fighting is developing.

On the 26th the Turks were defeated in the region of Dutach, and suffered heavy losses in killed and captured.

ACTIVITY OF THE ASKOLD.

Harbin, Dec. 31.

The Petrograd Telegraphic Agency says that the Russian cruiser Askold, while cruising along the coast of Syria on the 27th, bombarded the Turkish troops at El Arish, to the East of Port Said. The cruiser sent ashore a steam-launch with a boat for the purpose of reconnoitring the locality south of Tarabulla, near Beyrout, and firing occurred with the Turks and the Askold, which opened fire with her guns.

STUBBORN FIGHTING.

Petrograd, Dec. 30.

On the Caucasian front in the direction of Olti we assumed the offensive and occupied Merdenik. We are successfully fighting at Sarykamysch and advancing against the enemy's column from the north-west. A series of stubborn Turkish attacks on the Schomer-Horosan front were repulsed by our counter-attacks.

The Turks are brutally assaulting the peaceful inhabitants in these districts and in some cases the population of whole villages has been killed off.

THE LOYALTY OF THE SUDAN.

EMBARRASSING OFFERS OF HELP.

[FROM BRITISH LEGATION, PEKING.]

London, Dec. 29.

On the outbreak of hostilities between Great Britain and Turkey, Sir R. Wingate, Governor-General of the Sudan made a tour of the Sudan and explained fully how Great Britain's action against Turkey was caused solely by Turkish aggression.

Many of the most prominent inhabitants remember the frightful oppression under the Turkish rule and realized the immense benefits brought by British protection.

The loyalty of all classes of the population is amply proved by the numerous letters and speeches expressing their willingness to co-operate for the defence of the country against the enemies of Great Britain, while offers of help have been so numerous as to be almost embarrassing.

The Sudan correspondent of "The Times" says that whatever misery may be caused by the war, it has at least given proof that British work in the Sudan has not been in vain.

THE DESTRUCTION OF THE BULWARK.

ACTUAL CAUSE OF EXPLOSION UNKNOWN.

London, Dec. 30.

The inquest in connexion with the loss of life arising from the disaster to H.M.S. Bulwark was held to-day.

The evidence given by the Admiralty representative showed that no ammunition was being loaded at the time of the explosion and that there was no evidence of treachery or of loose or bad cordite. The actual cause of the explosion was unknown, but it was an accident.

A verdict of "Accidental death" was returned.

TEMPERANCE CAMPAIGN IN RUSSIA.

Petrograd, Dec. 30.

An order has been issued prohibiting the sale of all alcoholic drinks, including beer, even in first-class restaurants and clubs.

THE AMERICAN NOTE TO GREAT BRITAIN.

PRESIDENT WILSON ON THE DUTY OF SHIPPERS.

Through Reuter's Agency.

Washington, Dec. 29.

Referring to the American Note to Great Britain, President Wilson intimates that the American Government could deal confidentially with the matter of contraband only if

supported by absolutely honest manifests. Great embarrassment had been caused to the Government because some shippers concealed contraband in non-contraband cargoes; for instance, cotton. So long as such cases occurred suspicion would be cast on every shipment and all cargoes would be liable to search.

MODERATE COMMENT OF THE NEWSPAPERS.

New York, Dec. 29.

The newspapers comment in very moderate terms on the American Note to Great Britain.

The "Evening Sun" remarks that the enemies of Great Britain will interpret the Note as an indication of hostility to Great Britain, but such an interpretation is foolish and vicious.

The "Post" says that there is no question of hectoring, but simply a question of the vigilant safe-guarding of the rights of neutrals. "We have no doubt of the reasonable and friendly judgement of Great Britain."

London, Dec. 30.

The newspapers comment guardedly on the American Note pending receipt of the full text. They express confidence that Americans do not mean to deny the Allies fair play in this unprecedented war, especially in view of Germany's novel ideas of maritime warfare, and express the conviction that two peoples, who are so friendly and practical, will devise a *modus vivendi*.

A MEETING OF THE BRITISH CABINET.

London, Dec. 30.

There was a Cabinet meeting this afternoon at which all the Ministers were present. It is understood that the meeting considered the American Note, which is expected to occupy the Government a considerable time. The American Ambassador will probably be invited to discuss the matter with Sir Edward Grey, Secretary for Foreign Affairs.

GERMAN REPORTS.

The Editor takes no responsibility for the assertions of German reports.

"Ostasiatischer Lloyd."

Berlin, Dec. 29.

The "Deutscher Ueberseedienst" reports:—

In view of the fact that previous reports of the Headquarters to the effect that the operations were proceeding favourably have generally been eventually followed by reports of victories, one is justified in considering the situation in the east as promising a successful outcome for the Germans. It was reported some days ago that the Germans had occupied some points on the eastern bank of the Bzura and, inasmuch as no news has come of an abandonment of these positions, conclusions seem to be justified that all the positions have been held and that it is probable that other positions have been gained. Undoubtedly the Russians have

strengthened their forces opposing the Austrians in Galicia and the latter will be compelled to make new dispositions, which will require some time. War correspondents on the spot are making an attempt to picture the Russian occupation line from Kraano to Jaslo as no real gain for the Russians but, on the contrary, as weakening their positions. This view, however, is undoubtedly too optimistic and the fact must be faced that the Russian extreme left wing is proving itself superior to the enemy at present. The action of the Russians in strengthening their forces there is undoubtedly due to their realization of what an encircling of their flank in Galicia would signify.

News of importance is likely to come from the Vosges district at any moment inasmuch as the French have undoubtedly assembled strong forces along the line from Belfort and Epinal to Loul and Nancy. The French still hold all Vosges passes and appear to be developing new activity along the extended line against Alsace and the Sundgau.

Discussing the British reconnaissance in the "Berliner Tageblatt," Major Morant declares that it will be extremely difficult to land troops in winter on the coasts of Holstein or Hanover; but even if carried out, the invaders would get a warm welcome.

The "Temps" recommends Japan's warlike cooperation in Europe because other coloured people are fighting in the European theatre of war. The paper promises Japan the Triple Entente's support in Japan's emigration policy and her economic expansion.

The French military administration has decided to remove the Moroccan Spahis from the front as they are unfit for the present warfare in trenches.

The German Government will extend private traffic to the Belgian railways from January next.

M. Cabiati, the "Perseverance's" military expert, demonstrates that Russia, despite the enormous supply of men, is just capable, in consequence of a lack of officers and guns, to fill up the gaps in existing formations, while Germany is able continually to form up new army corps.

A pastoral letter from all German catholic Archbishops and Bishops calls the world's war a Divine judgement for human wickedness. The letter solemnly emphasizes that Germany is not to blame for the outbreak of the war.

Berlin, Dec. 30.

The German Foreign Office publishes the following report:—

Headquarters, Dec. 29.

Near Nieuport and in the south-east of Ypres the Germans have gained some ground.

Several strong attacks in the north-west of Saint Menesould have been repulsed with heavy losses to the French, who have lost several hundred prisoners.

In a French attack in the Bois Brules west of Apremont the Germans have taken a trench and several machine guns.

The French attack west of Sennheim has been repulsed.

In east Prussia and in Poland, on the right bank of the Vistula, there is no change.

On the Bzura and Ravka the German attacks are progressing. South of Inowloz strong Russian attacks have been repulsed.

The "Deutscher Ueberseedienst" reports:—

At the Christmas celebration at Headquarters a peremptory speech has been delivered stating that the whole German nation is firmly resolved to carry through the war until a peace is possible which will be adequate for the enormous sacrifices of Germany.

The British admit their great losses in the Yser district, and avow the foolishness of having caused the inundation which is now hampering the operations of the Allies.

The Luxemburg Minister of State, Hon. Eyschen, states in the press, that the talk of peace negotiations between Germany and France is premature. The peace question had not yet been brought forward, although the neutrals were entitled by the Hague convention to make suggestions which could not be considered an unfriendly act by the belligerents.

It is reported from Rome that the Japanese Ambassador has stated that the rumours that Japan intended to intervene in the European theatre of war were entirely unfounded.

The Turkish Headquarters report that the pursuit of the Russian army in the Caucasus is progressing. Large numbers of prisoners and quantities of war material have been captured.

The British renewed their attempt to land troops at Akabar, but failed.

Constantinople reports another Turkish success north of the river Kura, where several guns and much war material was captured and many Russian prisoners taken.

Washington, Dec. 30.

The Austro-Hungarian Embassy publishes the following official report:—

Vienna, Dec. 30.

In the Carpathians our troops retreated voluntarily before superior forces in order to regroup. Our other position in the north has not been influenced thereby. From December 11 to 20 we captured 43,000 Russians.

On account of the operations in Russia we suspended the offensive in Serbia and withdrew our unbeaten troops. Attacks of the Montenegrins on the frontier were repulsed. Archduke Eugene is appointed Chief Commander of the Balkan forces.

In the Adriatic on December 21 a French submarine was sunk and a Dreadnought was damaged by a torpedo.

PIRATES IN YUNNAN.

Mengtze, Dec. 30.

Sonla, the capital of the Laos district of Sonla, has been attacked by bands of pirates. It is doubtful whether relief can be brought in time. The French telegraph inspector, who is stationed nearest to Sonla, has been assassinated.

MONDAY.

HEAVY FIGHTING ON THE FRENCH RIGHT WING.

Through Reuter's Agency.

Paris, Dec. 31.

The official *communiqué* issued this evening says:—

"There have been no incidents of importance except some bombardments in the region of Arras and on the heights of the Meuse. There has been progress, which is apparently of a marked nature, in the Champagne. Bad weather persists along most of the front."

Paris, Dec. 31.

The official *communiqué* issued this afternoon says:—

"Our troops entered Steinbach and carried half the village house by house.

From the North Sea to the Aisne the situation was quiet. There were artillery duels at some points.

The enemy in the Reims district blew up two of our trenches and then attacked them but were repulsed.

We captured, to the north of Meuil les Hurlus, some sections of the enemy's second line of defence, and also carried some trenches to

the south of Beau Séjour. The enemy made a counter-attack, but were repulsed, whereupon we again advanced. The Germans attempted to retaliate from the east, but were caught by our artillery fire and dispersed.

We advanced slightly in the Argonne, in the region of Fontaine Madame, by exploding a mine and occupying the hollow thus formed.

We took 150 metres of German trenches at Bois de Montmare.

Paris, Jan. 1.

The official *communiqué* issued this afternoon says:—

On Wednesday evening an attack by the enemy, who attempted, after a lively fusillade, to debouch from the Bois de Forges, on the left bank of the Meuse, was immediately repulsed.

The positions we have won at Steinbach have been maintained and we continue to attack the enemy's positions.

There was nothing noteworthy elsewhere.

The official *communiqué* issued this afternoon says:—

From the North Sea to Reims there were, almost exclusively, artillery engagements.

The enemy bombarded, without result, St. Georges and the bridge head defence organized by the Belgians to the south of Dixmude.

A lively cannonade turned to our advantage between La Bassée and Carency, between Albert and Roye and in the districts of Verneuil, Blanchalblonnear and Craonelle; at the latter point we further demolished some German works.

We maintained our gains at Perthes and Beau Séjour.

The enemy made a violent attack in the Bois de la Grurie along the whole front and gained, at some points, fifty metres, but was immediately counter-attacked.

There were violent artillery engagements at Verdun.

The enemy, north-west of Flirey (east of St. Mihiel), made six fierce night-attacks in an attempt to recapture some lost trenches. Our troops brilliantly repulsed them all. Our aviators, at night, bombarded the railway stations at Metz and Arnville.

We continue to progress foot by foot at Steinbach. The enemy's artillery, in the morning, showed great activity, but our batteries, in the afternoon, assumed a clear advantage.

The official *communiqué* issued this evening states that no reports had been received with regard to to-day's operations.

HONOURS TO THE ALLIES.

Paris, Jan. 2.

The official *communiqué* issued this afternoon states:—

The enemy delivered numerous attacks; all of these were repulsed.

There was a very violent artillery engagement northward of the Lys, particularly along the dunes, at

Nieuport and at Zonnebeje. The enemy discontinued his counter-attacks against St. Georges. All our gains have been maintained.

There have been artillery duels in the whole of the regions of Arras, Albert and Roye. The German blew up two caissons between Beaumetz and Achicourt. We responded by wrecking the German trenches at Parvilliers and La Bois Selle and silenced his mine-throwers at Fricourt.

Our artillery obtained good results along the Aisne, silencing the enemy's batteries and dispersing concentrations of men. We established ourselves on the Plateau of Nouvron in pits made by mine explosions and the Germans were unable to dislodge us. The enemy violently bombarded the region of Reims. We carried a wood in the Perthes district. The Germans made no counter-attack.

Local sapping in the Bois de la Grurie yesterday was resultless. We regained a portion of the ground we lost two days ago and are strongly holding our other positions.

We retained the positions we have won in Woivre and made progress in the Bois le Prêtre.

Our troops repelled an attack three kilometres north-eastward of Badon-villiers, inflicting heavy losses on the enemy. The enemy suffered severely at Steinbach, where we carried three more lines of houses.

The official *communiqué* issued this evening states:—

There is nothing fresh to report except a violent fusillade during the night against the French trenches east of Vermelles and north of Chaulnes and an unsuccessful German attack west of the forest of Consenvoye.

A LABYRINTH OF EXCAVATIONS.

London, Jan. 2.

The Press Bureau "Eye-witness" states that on the 28th, there was a hurricane which was followed by a violent thunder-storm. Nothing notable occurred, the weather and the water-logged ground not favouring operations. The French progressed elsewhere, capturing St. Georges and inflicting heavy losses on the enemy. On the 29th our right wing gradually advanced and recovered much of the ground occupied by the enemy the previous week. On the 30th the progress of our right was maintained. On the 31st there was equally uneventful fighting over a perfect labyrinth of excavations. When there is any slackness in the fighting our troops are hard at work strengthening defences or constructing fresh ones.

ACTIVITY OF GERMAN AEROPLANES.

London, Jan. 3.

Fresh aeroplanes visited various places in eastern France on Satur-

day, including Nancy, but were driven off.

THE FIGHTING IN THE EASTERN THEATRE.

AUSTRO-GERMAN FORCES SEVERELY HANDLED.

Copenhagen, Jan. 1.

The well-known Vienna paper "*Neue Freie Presse*," states that Russian Headquarters strengthened, with large forces, their threatened left wing, thereby avoiding the endeavour made by the Austro-German forces to surround it and compelling the latter to retreat to the Carpathian heights; the "*Neue Freie Presse*" adds that only through this manoeuvre did the Russians succeed in preserving the blockade of the fortress of Przemyśl and consoles its readers with the remark that a large part of the Russian forces had to be withdrawn from the chief theatre of operations in Poland.

The "*Correspondenz Bureau*" announces that the Austrian Government will shortly issue a Red Book, the publication of which is necessitated by the French Yellow Book and the English Blue Book. The "*Correspondenz Bureau*" adds that the Austrian Red Book will not be able to explain the real cause of the conflict as that would require touching upon circumstances of the remote past.

SUCCESSFUL RUSSIAN RUSES ON THE PILICA.

[FROM RUSSIAN LEGATION, PEKING.]
Petrograd, Dec. 31.

There has been no heavy fighting on the left bank of the Vistula. In a partial encounter between the Vistula and Pilica we successfully repulsed German day and night attacks south of Bolimow on the Modnevitze Road. A German advance north of the Ravka was met by a bayonet counter-attack and the enemy were thrown back.

Near the Pilica, at the village of Jesergetz, we allowed a German column which was making a night attack to approach within 300 paces and then dispersed it by heavy fire with enormous losses. At several points we used hand-grenades very successfully. The enemy assumed the offensive from Tomaszow in the direction of Opoczno but half way between these two places and also at Zelenyi, Kamen, and Mazornia we successfully repulsed attacks inflicting considerable loss. The advance of the Austrians at Malogoszcz and south of Pinczow at Zakrjiv was also repulsed.

The action in Western Galicia is continuing to develop favourably. We captured some fortifications on the heights south of Kotan Kemp, north of Barvinek and south-west of Yaslisk. In the region of Baligrod, south of Lisko, we inflicted enormous losses on the enemy by successful bayonet attacks.

Whole companies of Austrian troops were annihilated. Late in the evening of the 29th the enemy began to retreat precipitately. At this part of the front only, we captured over 3,000 men and fifteen quick-firers.

On the Caucasian front our action is continuing at Sarakamysch against considerable Turkish forces. Our artillery dispersed a strong Turkish column which fled after losing half its strength. Part of the Turkish force concentrating in the region of the Yavaguschansk Pass is advancing towards Ardagan.

Petrograd Jan. 2.

The official *communiqué* issued this afternoon states:—

Despite a stubborn resistance we took the enemy's earth-works at the village of Mschanka, in the region of Gorlice, in Galicia, taking 3,000 prisoners, including sixty officers, four guns and six quick-firers. The engagement continues; furious counter-attacks have been repulsed.

We have occupied Storemnetz and Radautz (thirty miles south of Czernowitz) in Bukovina.

GERMAN OFFENSIVE REPULSED.

[FROM RUSSIAN LEGATION, PEKING.]

Petrograd, Jan. 2.

On the East Prussian front, in the direction of Mlawa, attempts made by the Germans to assume a partial offensive were successfully repulsed.

Our steamers successfully bombarded some German infantry on the Island of Ianyshew opposite Vyshegrog (Wyszogrod).

Between the lower Vistula and the Pilica the enemy made a series of attacks which were supported by the fire of their heaviest guns. We, on the left bank of the Bzura, repulsed some night-attacks. On the river Ravka we repulsed an attack against Doletsz. On the 31st the enemy displayed special activity between the mouth of the Bialka (? Biala, a tributary of the Ravka) and the mouth of the Ravka. The action still continues.

South of the Pilica engagements are developing along positions which intercept the roads from Vloschov (Wloszczowa) towards Kielce at Lopuszno, Mikhalagora (? Medzianagora), Volmino and Polikhno.

In the Caucasus there has been fierce fighting in the region of Sarakamysch. The advance of the Turks towards Olti has ceased.

MANY GERMANS TAKEN PRISONER.

Later.

On the Bzura and Ravka, despite the fire of the enemy's guns and mines, we continue to repulse him.

On the road from Vloschov (Wloszczow), in the region of Lopuszno, on the 31st, the Germans, after a stubborn fight, cap-

tured part of our trenches. We then made a counter-attack and the enemy were repulsed from all the trenches they had occupied. We took hundreds of prisoners and nine quick-firers.

The action in Galicia in the region of Golitz continues.

We have captured the Austrian positions at Ujok Pass, where we took thousands of prisoners.

The retreat of the Austrians in Bukovina is becoming a rout.

SERVIA FREE OF INVADERS.

[FROM BRITISH LEGATION, PEKING.]

London, Jan. 2.

The Crown Prince of Servia has issued an Army Order declaring the Country free of invaders.—Reuter.

COMMANDER HEWLETT SAVED.

THE DAMAGE DONE AT FRIEDRICHSHAVEN.

Amsterdam, Dec. 31.

A Dutch trawler, which rescued Flight Commander Hewlett, who was missing after the attack on the German Fleet at Cuxhaven, has arrived off Ymuiden but, up to the present, has been unable to enter the port owing to bad weather.

London, Jan. 2.

King George has telegraphed to Flight Commander Hewlett, "I am delighted and greatly relieved to hear that you are safe and heartily congratulate you."

London, Dec. 31.

The Admiralty announces that the damage caused by the raid of British aviators on Friedrichshaven is believed to include the destruction of one airship, damage to a larger shed, and the demolition of a hydrogen producing plant.

H.M.S. FORMIDABLE SUNK IN THE CHANNEL.

London, Jan. 1.

The Press Bureau announces that the British battleship *Formidable* has been sunk in the English Channel.

Later.

The Press Bureau states that, up to the present, it is uncertain whether H. M. S. *Formidable* was sunk by a mine or a submarine. A British light-cruiser picked up seventy-one survivors and it is possible that others have been rescued by other vessels.

Later.

The Admiralty publishes a list of eighty survivors of H.M.S. *Formidable* which includes three lieutenants, an engineer-commander, two assistant paymasters, and six midshipmen. The Admiralty promises another list. A Brixham trawler saved seventy of the crew in addition to the above.

London, Jan. 2.

The Admiralty has issued another list of survivors of H.M.S. *Formid-*

able, bringing the total number up to 201.

The additional survivors included in the latest total reached Lyme Regis in a cutter. Originally there were about sixty men on board, but it is believed that some of them perished while the others were in an exhausted condition.

H.M.S. Formidable is a sister ship to the Bulwark 15,000 tons; 18 knots; complement 781 men; completed 1901; four 12-inch; twelve 6-inch guns. The Formidable class were completed in 1901 and refitted in 1909-1911.

FRENCH BATTLESHIP REPORTED LOST.

London, Dec. 31.

It is reported that a French battleship has been torpedoed in the Adriatic, but no details have been received.

WALFISCH BAY AGAIN IN BRITISH HANDS.

ALL FORCES OF UNION CALLED TO CAMPAIGN.

Pretoria, Dec. 31.

An official communiqué announces the intention of the Government of the Union of South Africa to employ the powers of the Defence Act to commandeer men for service in German South-west Africa and the Union and not depend wholly on volunteers as a situation has arisen which cannot be adequately met with volunteer recruits.

Capetown, Dec. 31.

A strong Union force re-occupied Walfisch Bay on Christmas Day.

A REBEL ATTACK.

Pretoria, Dec. 30.

Maritz and Kemp with a commando of 800, mostly rebels, attacked 480 Loyalists near Kakamas on the 22nd. A running fight ensued. The rebels, whose attempts to outflank the Loyalists were repeatedly defeated, eventually withdrew.

ANTI-BRITISH AGENTS AT TEHERAN.

GERMAN EFFORTS TO FORCE PERSIA INTO WAR.

Harbin, Jan. 2.

The Bukharest correspondent of the Petrograd Agency wires that reports have been received from Constantinople to the effect that the Young Persian Committee have had lately several conferences with the members of the Young Turk Committee, their purpose being to compel the Persian Government to participate in the war against Russia and especially against Great Britain.

The Germans are coercing the Young Persian Party by every means in their power to force the hand of the Teheran Government, and are placing funds at their disposal necessary for the realization of this intention.

FRENCH GUNBOAT ATTACK ON TURKEY.

London, Dec. 31.

The French torpedo boat Fanfar has shelled and routed some Turkish troops near Guekli on the Asiatic coast of Turkey in front of Tenedos. —Reuter.

BOUGAINVILLE ISLAND MADE BRITISH.

[FROM BRITISH LEGATION, PEKING.]

London, Jan. 2.

The British flag has been hoisted by an Australian force at Bougainville Island in the Solomon Group.

Bougainville Island is in the north-west of the Solomon Group. It is about 150 miles long by twenty-five to forty miles wide.—Ed.

GENERAL SURVEY OF THE WAR.

Anglo-Chinese Agency.

London, Dec. 31.

Even the Germans now admit the Austrian débâcle which is complete. Thus four Austrian armies have been beaten since the start of the war, and reports of disaffection in Hungary cause little surprise. The Allies are also taking the initiative in the Adriatic, where the Austrian fleet, though sheltering in fortresses, has been attacked.

There is not the slightest friction between the United States Government and the Allies. President Wilson's Note is being amicably discussed here and in America, and no doubt attempts will be made to adjust the situation to meet the commercial claims of the States.

Slow but steady progress is being made by the Allies in France, much difficulty being caused by the weather. It has been the wettest December on record and the entire country is reduced to a marsh.

German losses are actually greatest in Poland where the fighting has been most sanguinary, the Germans fruitlessly striving to reach Warsaw.

The Russians have captured so much Austrian ammunition that they will save most of their own.

It is officially announced that the rate of unemployment is less in Great Britain than it was a year ago. There is a slight rise in the price of bread, owing to scarcity of transport ships, but this is considered to be only temporary.

BRITAIN'S SHARE IN THE WAR.

Through Reuter's Agency.

Petrograd, Dec. 31.

Sir George Buchanan, the British Ambassador, in a vigorous speech made at the English Club, replied to a small and insignificant section of Russians who, influenced by Germanophiles, were criticizing

Great Britain for not exerting her full strength. Sir George Buchanan eloquently showed the magnificent work of the British Navy in commanding the seas, bottling up the German fleet and securing supplies for the Allies while, he said, the chief tribute to the British Army came from the Germans themselves at the battles at Mons, the Marne, the Aisne and the Yser. Great Britain is the main object of German hatred because Germany knew that the resources of the British Empire had blocked Germany's dream of world domination.

BRITAIN'S SIX NEW ARMIES.

GENERALS WHO WILL COMMAND.

London, Jan. 1.

An Army Order issued to-night announces the creation of six new armies each generally consisting of three army corps.

General Sir D. Haig will command the 1st Army; General Sir H. L. Smith-Dorrien the 2nd Army; General Sir Archibald Hunter the 3rd Army; General Sir Ian Hamilton the 4th Army; General Sir H. M. L. Rundle the 5th Army and General Sir Bruce Hamilton the 6th Army.

Major-General Monro commands the 1st Corps; Lieut.-General Fergusson the 2nd Corps and Lieut.-General Sir H. C. Plummer the 5th Corps.

CAREERS OF THE GENERALS.

General Sir Douglas Haig, K.C.B., joined the 7th Hussars in 1885. He served with great distinction in the Sudan in 1898 and in South Africa in 1899. During the latter campaign he was D.A.A.G. for Cavalry, Natal; C.S.O. to General French during the Colesberg operations, and A.A.G. to a Cavalry Division. From 1901-3 he was Lt. Col. Com. the 17th Lancers and from 1903-6, Inspector General of Cavalry in India. Promoted to the rank of Major-General in 1904, he became Director of Military Training in 1906. From 1907-9, he was Director of Staff Duties at Army Headquarters, and from 1909-12 he was Chief of Staff in India.

General Sir Horace Lockwood Smith-Dorrien, G.C.B., entered the Sherwood Foresters in 1876, becoming Lt. Col. in 1899. He served in the Zulu War in 1879, the Egyptian War of 1882, the Nile Expedition of 1884 and took part in the Sudan Campaign 1885. From 1893-98 he occupied various important military posts in India, taking part in the Tirah Campaign on the North-West Frontier in 1897-98. In 1900 as Major-General he commanded a Brigade and a Division in South Africa and was twice mentioned in despatches. From 1901-3 he was Adjutant-General in India and from 1903-7, he commanded the 4th (Quetta) Division. He was promoted Lt. General in 1906 and General in 1912. From 1907-12 he was Commander-in-Chief at Aldershot.

Lieut.-Gen. Sir Archibald Hunter, G.C.B., joined the 4th King's Own Royal Lancaster Regt. in 1874, becoming Captain in 1882, Lt. Col. in 1889, Col. in 1894 and Major-General in 1896. He served in Egypt under Sir Francis Grenfell and was severely wounded at the battle of Ginnis in 1885. From 1895-99

he was Governor of Dongola Province and Commandant of the Frontier Field Force. In 1899 he became Governor of Omdurman. During the South African War he was Lieut.-Gen. on the staff and commanded the 10th Division, being twice mentioned in despatches. From 1901-3 he commanded in Scotland, and from 1904-7 was in command of the Western Army Corps, India. From 1907-9 he commanded the Southern Army, Indian Army.

General Sir Ian Hamilton, G.C.B., D.S.O., entered the Army in 1873 and served in the Afghan War of 1878-80, the Boer War of 1891, the Nile Expedition of 1884-5 and the Burmese Expedition of 1886-7, in all of which he was mentioned in despatches. In 1891 he became a Colonel, saw service with the Chitral relief force in 1895 and commanded the 3rd Brigade during the Tirah campaign, 1897-8. The frequency with which his name was mentioned in despatches and his association with some of its most notable events brought him prominently before the public during the South African War. He was Q. M. G. to the Forces 1903-4 and served as Military Representative of India with the Japanese Field Army in Manchuria, 1904-5. From 1905-9 he was G. O. C. in-Chief Southern Command and from 1909-10 Adjutant-General to the Forces. In 1910 he was appointed G. O. C. in-Chief in the Mediterranean and Inspector-General of the Overseas forces.

General Sir Henry Leslie Rundle, G.C.B., D.S.O., entered the Royal Artillery in 1876, becoming General in 1909. He served in the Zulu War of 1879, the Boer War of 1881, the Egyptian War of 1882 and the Nile Expedition of 1884-5. He accompanied the Dongola Expeditionary Force of 1896 and the Khartoum Expedition two years later. From 1899-1900 he was Adj.-Gen. to the Forces and from 1900-1902 he was Lieut.-Gen. on the staff in command of the 8th Division South African Field Force. In 1903 he was appointed Commander-in-Chief at Malta.

General Sir Bruce Meade Hamilton, K.C.B., entered the East Yorks Regiment in 1877, becoming Major in 1895, Colonel in 1897 and Major-General in 1900. He first saw active service in the Afghan War 1880 and was mentioned in despatches in the Boer war of the following year. During the South African War, in 1900, he was mentioned in despatches no fewer than six times. He was promoted to Lieut. Gen. in 1907 and to General in 1913.

Maj.-Gen. Charles Carmichael Monro, C.B., has commanded a Division of the Territorial Force since 1912 and was before that Commandant of the School of Musketry, Hythe. He entered the Army in 1879, becoming Captain in 1889, Major in 1898, Lieut.-Col. and Colonel in 1903. He served with distinction during the South African War.

Lt.-Gen. Sir Charles Fergusson Bt., G.B., M.O. D.S.O., originally of the Grenadier Guards and School of Instruction Chelsea Barracks; Hon. Col. of the Lowland Brigade, A.S.C. Territorial Force—transport and supply columns—and Governor of the Royal Hospital, Kilmainham, is on the foreign orders list for Egypt, where he has repeatedly rendered distinguished service.

Lieut.-Gen. Sir Herbert Charles Plumer, K.C.B., who has been General Officer Commanding the Northern Command since 1911, entered the York and Lancaster Regiment in 1876. He served with distinction in the Sudan in 1884, in South Africa in 1896, when he raised and commanded a corps of mounted rifles and during the South African War. From 1902-3 he commanded the 4th Brigade, 1st Army Corps and from 1903-4 the 10th Division and 19th Brigade, 4th Army Corps. In the following year he was Q. M. G. to the Forces and 3rd Military Member of the Army Council. From 1906-9 he commanded the 5th Division Irish Command.—Ed.

NEW YEAR WISHES OF KING GEORGE.

FRIENDLY MESSAGE TO AMERICA.

London, Jan. 1.

King George V telegraphed to President Poincaré his good wishes for the New Year saying that he was certain it would witness a drawing closer of the friendship and alliance existing between France and Great Britain, and hoping that the war would soon be brought to a victorious conclusion.

President Poincaré replied reciprocating King George's wishes and expressing confidence in the victory of the Allies. He said that France was resolved to fight for a complete triumph over the enemy.

Washington, Jan. 1.

President Wilson's New Year greetings from the Heads of various States included the following from King George: "Hearty good wishes for your personal happiness and the prosperity of the United States, to which we are united by such close ties of friendship and intimacy."

THE AMERICAN NOTE.

London, Dec. 31.

The Press Bureau issues tonight the official text of the United States Note, with a brief covering note from Dr. W. H. Page, the United States Ambassador, which assures Sir Edward Grey that the representations of the United States are made in the friendliest spirit in the belief that frankness will better serve to a continuance of the cordial relations existing between Great Britain and America than silence, which might be misconstrued into acquiescence with a course which the United States cannot but consider an infringement of the rights of American citizens.

EXPORT OF MUNITIONS OF WAR.

Washington, Jan. 2.

Various business interests have protested against there being any legislation restricting the export of munitions of war to the belligerents in Europe.

BRITAIN'S FINANCES.

London, Dec. 31.

The Board of Trade announce that the rate of insurance on cargo against war risks is reduced from 1½ (one and a half) guineas to one guinea per cent.

The Revenue of the British Isles for the last quarter amounted to £43,323,369, an increase of £954,493.

FRENCH FINANCES.

M. Kahn, French Consul General, has courteously communicated the following telegram sent from the French Legation Peking yesterday.

From January 1 all the large banks have decided to dispense with the benefits of the moratorium and to pay all calls on deposits and current accounts.

This will put into circulation an enormous quantity of money and shows that after five months of war the economic situation in France is excellent. This is further shown by the fact that, in spite of the moratorium, over two milliards of francs have been subscribed by the public to the war fund.

RETURN OF BANK TO PARIS.

Paris, Dec. 30.

The Bank of France has returned to Paris: the War Ministry will return the first week in January.—Reuter.

THE EXCHANGE OF PRISONERS.

THE POPE'S APPEAL TO GERMAN EMPEROR.

London, Jan. 3.

His Holiness the Pope telegraphed to the German Emperor appealing to his feelings and Christian charity to terminate a disastrous year and begin a new year with an act of Imperial generosity by accepting the proposal to exchange prisoners who are unfit for military service between the belligerents.

The German Emperor replying, assured the Pope that "the proposal finds full sympathy. The feelings of Christian charity which inspired this proposal corresponds thoroughly with my own conviction and desires."

GERMAN DUMDUM BULLETS.

[FROM BRITISH LEGATION, PEKING.]

London, Dec. 31.

The seventh report of the Belgian Commission of Inquiry into the German atrocities in Belgium has been received. Irrefutable evidence is given of the use of dum dum bullets by German soldiers at the battles of Ninove and Alost, among others, in September and further proof that civilians were forced to march in front of troops in assaults.

GERMAN REPORTS.

The Editor takes no responsibility for the assertions of German reports.

"Ostasiatischer Lloyd."

Berlin, Dec. 31.

The German Foreign Office publishes the following reports:

Headquarters, Dec. 30.

The fighting for the farm of St. Georges south-east of Nieuport, which the Germans had evacuated during a sudden assault by the enemy, is still going on. Much damage has been done

(Continued on page 116)

NEW YEAR.

Jan. 3.

ONE of the most charming essays of that charming essayist Miss Elizabeth Bisland deals with the art of "making the most of life." Beginning with Rochefoucauld's dictum, "*Il y a de bons mariages mais point de délicieux*," she asks herself why, not in marriage alone, even when the lives are good, they so rarely manage to be delicious?

"Most of us begin with the intention that they shall be delicious. . . . And after the passage of time we, almost without exception, painfully realize that our food is hard, tasteless and dry; and is to be got down at all only by the aid of the salt of humour, or the moisture of tears. . . . Most of the apparently cheerful bearers of the burden of middle age would admit—could they be induced to speak the whole truth—that for them the word 'deliciousness' had now scarcely a meaning for their dulled memories, their flagging relish of life."

For the answer to these and other cognate questions readers may be referred to the collected edition of essays by this writer entitled "At the Sign of the Hobby-horse." A glimpse of her meaning is conveyed in a saying, elsewhere in the volume, that "do unto others what they would have you do unto them" is a much more difficult rule to follow than the traditional one. There is nothing, perhaps, very new in such thoughts—is there, indeed, anything new left to be done in the way of thinking?—but they are delightfully expressed and provide most appropriate reading for New Year's Day.

There are two ways, broadly, of regarding those resolutions to which mankind is prone at the changing of the year. On the one hand, we have Kingsley's advice about making "stepping-stones of our dead selves" to higher things—from which point of view resolution-making appears a thoroughly virtuous process which ought to be practised, not only on every New Year's eve, but on the eve of every new day. An instantaneous photograph of a bursting wave reveals the cloud of spray, all that the eye can apprehend, is an infinite number of tiny globules distinct from each other and only connected in general aspect. So one may say that life is made up of an infinite series of moments, and the ebullient compound of each human existence is less commonly harmonious than that which nature achieves. Does it not behove us, therefore, to pay greater heed to the moments, and to pass them daily under a re-

gular process of "re-solution?" On the other hand, it is easy to argue that this process not only leads to morbid habits of introspection, but is in itself a confession of weakness and moral valedinarianism. One of the most famous essays on New Year's Eve is that of Charles Lamb. It ends on a note of optimism, but the part that the writer evidently most enjoyed is that in which he pulls "Elia" to pieces for reprobation—analysis which he himself suspects "may be the symptom of some sickly idiosyncrasy." The ideal existence, one feels, the life out of which the most is being made, should have no space for such self-communing, and the only purpose for which we ought to study the moments should be to enjoy each one of them to our utmost capacity.

"The True, the Good, the Beautiful,
These are the things that pay"

—chanted Lewis Carroll, and the reflexion applies to other things than the making of poetry to which the author cynically applied it, providing a conventional but none the less satisfactory test of the meaning of enjoyment.

Upon that meaning depends our answer to the question whether we have a right to look for any enjoyment at all in a year which dawns on most of the world engaged in an interminable and exceptionally destructive war. Everybody, of course, is agreed that there must be no blind shutting of eyes to the troubles which do not directly touch us. But, with all due decency, it may be suggested that there is such a thing as making too much of other people's miseries. In a London hospital, it is told, there lay a remarkably sick child, over whom a kind-hearted but rather dolorous old lady came to mourn and expend her pity day by day. At last the child revolted. "Do go away," she exclaimed. "Oh I wish you would go away. You make me so un'appy." The saying which has been offered to the nation as a guiding rule for the war, "Business as usual," is capable of great abuse, and needs a good deal of sifting by each individual before he can satisfactorily apply it to himself. But in the sense that there is nothing to be gained by going about with long faces, it serves not only for war but for all time. Bad as the war is, a very brief survey of past and present convinces one that it

might be infinitely worse. It is very deplorable that so many efforts of pacifists should have come to nothing. But the fact at least reveals that, after all, we are not so much wiser than our fathers as we supposed—a disconcerting discovery, but an improving one, from which alone, even if the war have nothing else to teach us, we may yet suck out no small advantage in the New Year.

THE GREAT WAR IN 1914.

Jan. 4.

To attempt an adequate review of the war is obviously impossible for any except the few men who have been, throughout, behind the scenes at headquarters. Never since newspapers became general has censorship been so thorough, and to this day the world at large possesses but the vaguest details about engagements fought even in the earliest days of the conflict. A few outstanding facts and dates are available, however, and these it may be useful to summarize.

Future historians will probably date the origin of the quarrel from the dismissal of the Chancellor Bismarck in 1890. Bismarck had fought three wars, those of 1864, 1866 and 1870, to create German national unity, and his principle in foreign policy was that of *divide et impera*. William II, on becoming virtually his own Chancellor, inaugurated the famous *weltpolitik*, or as it might now be paraphrased, the pursuit of Germany's place in the sun; the rapid effect of which was to draw together the Powers whom Bismarck had laboured to keep asunder. The Dual Alliance, the Anglo-French agreement of 1904, the Anglo-Russian agreement of 1907, developing into the Triple Entente, bore witness to the growing menace exercised in Europe by Germany's pugnacious ambitions. Three times that pugnacity might have led to war, in the disputes about Morocco of 1906 and 1911, and in connexion with the annexation of Bosnia-Herzegovina—a Pan-German attack on Pan-Slavism—in 1908. But neither France nor Russia was ready.

GERMANY'S WAR MACHINE.

Meanwhile, since 1900 the development of German naval power had proclaimed a challenge to Great Britain on her own special element, a challenge

which no amount of specious explanations could conceal or modify. "A policy, to be successful, must be backed by force" says Bernhardt; and true to that principle Germany's rulers set themselves diligently to turn Germany into one gigantic military machine. Whether the Emperor William was in the end responsible for setting that machine in motion, or whether the machine got out of hand like a runaway engine, the future may show better than the present. But to the Emperor must be assigned the responsibility for those grandiose schemes, of which unceasing, ever swelling armament was the inevitable counterpart.

Coming to more recent years the Turco-Italian and Balkan wars of 1912 were not a little disconcerting to Germany. The hurt surprise of Turkey at being attacked by a member of the Triple Alliance, the weakening of the Turk before Germany's cherished scheme of ascendancy in that quarter was complete, and the formidable accession of Serbia's power were all calculated to upset Germany's aims and turn her thoughts to the arbitrament of the sword. That she was not yet ready to meet Great Britain on the sea, lends, in view of subsequent events, special interest to the endeavours made in Berlin in 1912 and 1913 to prove how much relationships between Germany and Britain were bettering. But it was too late to detach Britain from the Triple Entente, and the rulers of Europe must have realized that the inevitable was drawing near when in 1913 the peace strength of the German army was again raised from 544,000 men to 661,000. Even then Germany might have hesitated to plunge the world in war had she not been misled into the belief that Russia was seething with revolution, that France's army was unready and that Britain was on the verge of a civil war in Ireland.

THE SERAJEVO CRIME.

The murder of the Archduke Francis Ferdinand and of his wife the Duchess of Hohenberg at Serajevo on June 28, 1914, was but the spark which fired a train long primed. The indignation to which that crime gave rise in Austria led to the delivery on July 23 of a Note demanding public apology, acknowledgement and suppression of alleged anti-Austrian propaganda in Serbia,

punishment of certain officers and functionaries named by Austria, and the acceptance of Austria's collaboration in hunting down those implicated in the murder. A time limit of thirty-six hours was set for a reply. According to a most instructive despatch, published as a White Paper, from Sir Maurice de Bunsen, H. M. Ambassador in Vienna, to Sir Edward Grey, the Austrian Government so fully believed in the justice of its cause that it never imagined that any other Power could see reason to intervene. Against this, the fact that, with the sole exception of Germany's representative, the whole Diplomatic Body of Vienna was kept in ignorance of the Note until it had been presented was suspicious. Still, directly Austria realized that Russia would not stand aloof, she modified her attitude. "Conversations" continued in Petrograd, Vienna and London, and by August 1, Sir Maurice de Bunsen tells us, it had been agreed between Russia and Austria that the points in the Austrian Note which appeared incompatible with Servian independence should be submitted to mediation, and in the meantime Austria would not invade Serbia. Unhappily Germany had, on July 31, launched her double ultimatum to France and Russia. Yet war was not declared between Austria and Russia until August 6, between France and Austria until August 11 and between Austria and Great Britain until August 13. The mutual regret of these two old friends in finding themselves in hostile camps gives good promise that, when the war is over, it need leave no irreparable breach in this quarter at least.

RUSSIA AND FRANCE.

Russia's protest against the Austrian Note has already been mentioned. From July 24 to 28 full councils of ministers were meeting in Petrograd and about the latter date a mobilization of the southern and south-western troops was ordered. General mobilization was not ordered until July 31. It is noticeable that the strikes raging in Petrograd about July 24-26 died down instantly before the threat of war, and the announcement of Germany's ultimatum was greeted throughout Russia with boundless enthusiasm. Then was seen the wonderful abolition of the sale of vodka through all the Russias, recently followed by further tem-

perance legislation prohibiting the sale of wine and spirits in restaurants. The Russian Government loses ten millions sterling a year by this prohibition, but the accession to the army's powers of endurance has already been fully demonstrated.

President Poincaré was actually in Russia when Austria delivered her Note to Servia. He got back to France by July 29, at which time partial mobilization had been ordered. The French Government, however, was emphatic in stating that mobilization was only precautionary, and although there was great activity of troops in eastern France, they were kept eight miles within the frontier until German forces had actually crossed it at Longwy on August 2, although no formal declaration of war had followed the ultimatum of July 31. The murder of M. Jaurès the Socialist leader, shot in a Paris restaurant on July 31 by a crazy youth, is no indication of the spirit wherein France received this unprovoked war, which was and has always been, even in the darkest hours, wholly admirable, united, calm, determined. The entry of the French army into the war may be said to date from August 4, when Generalissimo Joffre departed for the frontier on receiving his appointment.

UNITY OF GREAT BRITAIN.

It is again worth noting that in Great Britain the presentation of Austria's Note coincided with the collapse of the Home Rule Conference at Buckingham Palace and a most acrimonious debate in the House of Commons. On July 30 Mr. Asquith proposed the adjournment of the Irish question, in view of the grave European situation; and his appeal for unity was met by a noble response of all parties. Lord Morley, President of the Council, Mr. John Burns, President of the Board of Trade, and Mr. C. P. Trevelyan, Parliamentary Secretary to the Board of Education, resigned office on the declaration of war. But these changes are in no respect significant of the general temper of all parties and the country at large, which has given itself wholeheartedly to the task before it.

The British fleet, which by a fortunate coincidence had but lately undergone a grand mobilization in place of the usual manœuvres, left Portland on July 30 under sealed orders. On

August 4 war was declared between Britain and Germany, and the British Embassy in Berlin was attacked by the mob—a disgrace which was in no degree atoned for by the manner of apology to the Ambassador which his Imperial Majesty chose to adopt, in striking contrast with the sincere and plenary regret expressed by the German Foreign Minister.

THE SCRAP OF PAPER.

The speeches made by Sir Edward Grey on August 3 and by Mr. Asquith on August 4 and the famous interview between Sir William Goschen, British Ambassador in Berlin, and the Chancellor, Dr. von Bethmann Hollweg, at which the latter asked the Ambassador whether Great Britain would really go to war for so little a thing as the inviolability of Belgium, just "for a scrap of paper," have made the issue so clear as regards Great Britain's action that dispassionate critics have had no difficulty in recognizing its justice. After the failure of Sir Edward Grey's proposals for a conference in London similar to that which sat during the Balkan wars, efforts were directed towards localizing the conflict so far as could be done consistently with Britain's honour. Two stipulations were addressed to Germany as the price of Great Britain's standing aside:—

(1).—That the German fleet should abstain from attacking French coasts and shipping.

(2).—That Germany, equally with France, should respect Belgian neutrality.

It speaks much for Germany's anxiety to keep Great Britain out of the war that she was willing to accept the first condition. To the second she said that she could not reply without disclosing vital military secrets. At a later stage a pretence was made of "unimpeachable information" that, had Germany not attacked France through Belgium, France would have attacked Germany—notwithstanding that France had already given the desired assurance that she would respect that neutrality of Belgium to which she, in common with Britain and Germany, was bound by the Treaty of 1860, and which even Bismarck had respected in 1870. Germany did offer a promise that at the end of the war Belgium's independence should be respected and no territory taken from her. One may wonder how that promise would have been kept—an idle specula-

tion, for the offer was obviously not good enough for Great Britain, especially with Belgium's appeal for help in her ears and Belgium prepared to do battle to the last for her rights. That Great Britain could not have remained deaf to that appeal with one shred of honour left her, has been as freely recognized by all impartial judges as it was by the nation at large.

GERMAN ALLEGATIONS.

An impenetrable censorship veiled all doings in Germany during the latter days of July, except for such highly coloured accounts as the official press agencies permitted to pass. According to those accounts Germany's object was to localize the quarrel between Austria and Serbia; the Tsar, it was said, had telegraphed to the German Emperor on July 29 asking him to mediate in Vienna; the Emperor consented, pointing out, however, that the partial mobilization proceeding in Russia was detrimental to the chances of such mediation; that by July 30, Germany learnt that Russia had ordered a general mobilization, and there remained nothing for Germany to do but to defend herself. These contentions, drawn from the "*Ostasiatischer Lloyd*," as well as to put the official point of view as any German paper, overlook the important fact that the general mobilization was not ordered in Russia until July 31, that mobilizations were going on in every country of Europe as the customary precaution at times of crisis—a precaution which it is preposterous to suppose that Germany had not taken at least as soon as she accused Russia of taking it—and that, as already noted, Russia and Austria actually reached a basis of agreement touching Serbia on August 31.

On August 2 Germany followed up her ultimatum to Russia and France with another to Belgium, demanding an *entente* to facilitate Germany's military operations. On August 3, before Belgium's refusal had been received, German troops had crossed the frontier in the region of Visé.

LUXEMBURG & LIEGE.

The first act of war was actually committed by Germany on the night of August 1 when German soldiers invaded the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg and seized the railheads. Luxembourg, slop-

ing gradually towards France, but presenting an abrupt and rocky hillside towards Germany, offers a natural fortification against the latter. It is but another instance of the absurdity of Germany's allegation of other Powers' evil designs upon herself that so obvious a citadel had never been fortified. The Grand Duchess Marie attempted to bar the entry of German troops by placing her motor-car across the viaduct that leads into the town, but was curtly told to go home. Subsequently the Grand Duchess was removed a prisoner to Heidelberg, it is believed, and Luxembourg passes for the time being out of history, except as a channel for the inrush of German troops.

Meanwhile three German army corps, travelling light for the sake of speed, under General von Emmich were advancing towards Liège which was manned by 40,000 Belgians under the gallant General Sernin. The position of Belgium might be described as one of certain unsurpassable fortresses, designed by Brialmont, accounted the best engineer of the nineteenth century, but an insufficiency of men. The total strength of the Belgian army was reckoned at about 300,000 men, but to put all these in the field required far more time than was available. What the Belgians lacked in numbers, however, they have more than made up in gallantry and determination. Von Emmich's force, unprovided as yet with the heavy Krupp howitzers which were, as intended, the surprise of the war, was badly held up at Visé and suffered great losses at Liège. Before the latter town was invested General Sernin had sent back the bulk of his troops to join the field army. Liège held out until August 17 when the siege howitzers completed their work, after the death and disablement of many thousands of Germans and a serious dislocation of the German time-table, invaluable to the Allies. Nevertheless by August 9 the Meuse had been bridged and the German flood flowed round Liège, to meet the Belgian field army at Haelen and drive it back on Brussels on August 12.

On the 14th the French advance guards were at Charleroi and Wavre, and the Germans had no difficulty in preventing their joining hands with the Belgians, the French, who seem to have believed that the German

invasion of Belgium was a feint, having concentrated further south. On August 17 the Belgian Government was removed to Antwerp and three days later the Germans entered Brussels and, in violation of the Hague Convention, imposed a levy of £8,000,000 on the city.

LOUVAIN TO ANTWERP.

To follow in detail all the gallant work done by the Belgian field army in harrying the invaders and inflicting all possible losses on them, is impossible in the space at command. Never was contest so unequal; never was one so indefatigably waged by puny antagonist to giant strength: and when on August 23, to the horror of the whole civilized world, Louvain was deliberately burnt to the ground, on a paltry and apparently trumped up charge that a few civilians had fired on German troops, the real motive was undoubtedly lust for vengeance on the nation that had so seriously and so unexpectedly disturbed German calculations. The bombardment of Namur began on August 23, and this fortress, accounted far stronger than Liège, fell to the siege guns, which the Germans had brought up under cover of fog, in forty-eight hours. On the 25th Malines was bombarded and completely wrecked. Aerschot and Dinant followed in due course. Throughout September the Belgians were making preparations for the siege of Antwerp, and early in October a force of 8,000 British marines was thrown into the city to stiffen the defence. These men were to a large extent raw levies, and Mr. Winston Churchill was severely criticized for sending them. Yet there can be no question that they did invaluable work; and upon the fall of Antwerp on October 9, after a siege that lasted less than a fortnight and a furious bombardment of the whole town, although 2,000 of the Naval Brigade were forced to enter Holland and lay down their arms, the remainder cooperated most skilfully with the Belgian army in effecting a safe retreat to Ostend, bringing away all the naval guns. Immense quantities of stores and ammunition were also safely destroyed before the evacuation took place. With the fall of Antwerp all Belgium except southwestern Flanders was in German hands. Those hands had utterly destroyed four large cities, innumerable villages and

farmsteads and, there is grave reason to fear, had wrought many unmentionable barbarities upon the defenceless people of the country that dared resist Germany. So much for Teutonic culture.

Jan. 5.

CAMPAIGN IN ALSACE.

On August 2, as noted above, German forces crossed the French border at Longwy. France retaliated with a brilliant little campaign in Alsace, drove the Germans from Altkirch on August 7 and entered Mulhouse on the 8th, where the tricolour was received with acclamations. On the next day, however, the French were compelled to retire, their communications being threatened, but under General Pau they attacked afresh and once more occupied Mulhouse on the 17th. Meanwhile another line of assault was being delivered through Lorraine. Saarburg was seized on the 18th and the next day the Germans evacuated Upper Alsace. The growing seriousness of the position in northern France compelled General Joffre to recall General Pau on the 25th; but the campaign, for all it was apparently fruitless, had served a useful purpose. It had stiffened the morale of the French troops, taught them that man for man, they had nothing to fear from the Germans and by the advance on Saarburg had drawn off considerable numbers of the enemy from the Metz-Verdun region.

On August 18 the British expeditionary force completed its disembarkation in France. Its exact numbers are unknown—possibly 100 to 150,000 men—but it may be said without boasting that in spirit, equipment and general efficiency its value was three times its paper strength. Indeed it has repeatedly had to face odds far greater than three to one and has done so with equal credit and success. From August 24 until September 5 the British troops were incessantly marching and fighting rearguard actions against overwhelming odds; yet they were ready to take their part in the great offensive on Ourcq and Marne with unflagging energy.

THE ADVANCE ON PARIS.

On August 20 large forces of Germans were reported crossing the Meuse between Liège and Namur, and with the battle of Hainault on August 23 the on-

slaught upon France, which has been variously compared to an avalanche, a tidal wave, anything which denotes overwhelming volume and rapidity, had fairly begun. In the east the Crown Prince was advancing from Longwy, in the west von Kluck was doing his utmost to round up the British army into Maubeuge, and although this attempt failed the British suffered terribly at Mons. In shooting, manoeuvring, field artillery and, above all, bayonet work, the Allies were and are vastly superior to their opponents. But it was impossible to stand against the overwhelming numbers of the Germans, and the utter indifference to loss of life with which the German generals hurled reserve after reserve against the foe. The fall of the first line of defences at Namur compelled the Allies to retire from the Sambre on the 23rd. On the 24th and 25th they drew back still farther. On the 26th the British fought a desperate action at Cambrai, temporarily checking the Germans, whose dead literally choked the streets. But the retirement continued. On August 31 the Allies held the strong line of the mouth of the Somme, La Fère-Laon-Mézières and on September 21 the French dealt a severe blow to the Crown Prince's army at Longwyon. Extensions of the German right wing, however, compelled another retreat, and the French Government was removed from Paris to Bordeaux. But the end was not far off. A slight check inflicted on the invaders at St. Quentin enabled the Allies to form up along the Marne and the Ourcq. At the same time General Joffre cleverly interposed an entirely new army, the Sixth, on the British left, northwards of Paris.

BATTLE OF MARNE.

It was the apparition of his force which caused Gen. von Kluck to swerve southeastwards from the direct march on Paris, presumably with the idea of joining the Crown Prince—and on September 6 General Joffre gave the long desired order for the attack, which was simultaneously delivered by the French and British on the Ourcq and Morin, and the French along the Marne. By the 8th the German right wing was driven back over the Petit Morin, upon the centre, and with the French attacking furiously all along the Marne, the boasted German swoop upon Paris was turned into something perilously

resembling a rout. On September 13 General Joffre could safely announce that "the enemy was everywhere retreating." By the middle of the month the Germans were behind the Aisne occupying a line roughly from Péronne to Soissons, Reims and Troyon, and the era of "fortress-like operations" had begun. It will be interesting to learn another day whether, with more fresh troops available, the Allies might have hustled the Germans right back into Belgium and Luxemburg. But it is improbable that the German generals would have neglected to prepare *points d'appui* in the rear of their advance, especially on so strong a natural position as the Aisne, and there is no evidence of any failure by the Allies to press the attack to the utmost limit. The rest of September and early October saw the Allies' line gradually extending westwards and northwards in the hope of encircling the German right. Two strong attempts were made by the enemy, in the Argonne and the Woëvres, to break through, but he was unable to get farther than St. Mihiel and Ste. Ménehould. The German press has repeatedly asserted that Verdun was on the point of being captured (Mauhege had fallen on September 9) but there is not a shadow of truth in the story.

THE ATTEMPT FOR CALAIS.

Meanwhile the rapid extension of the Allies' line by Roye, Armentières and Lens, and the impossibility of breaking it anywhere, caused fresh plans to ferment in German brains, namely, the seizure of Dunkirk and Calais, whence it was said an invasion of England would immediately be essayed. On October 6 German forces were reported massing at Lille and cavalry skirmishes began round Hazebrouck and Bailleul. Had the Germans made a dash for the coast directly Antwerp fell on October 9, they might have succeeded. They wasted a week over a pompous entry into the fallen city, and the Allies were able to reach the coast at Nieuport on October 16, establishing themselves on a line Nieuport-Dixmude-Ypres and the regions of La Bassée by the Yser and La Bassée canals.

Then began an era of incredibly ferocious fighting. The canals were held by British, French and Belgian troops supported by British monitors on the coast, whose heavy guns successfully inflamed

the German right. On several occasions the Germans by sheer weight of numbers succeeded in bending back the Allied line, for a few days they even succeeded in establishing themselves on the left bank of the Yser at Dixmude. But they never managed to make any real progress. The culminating effort—it is believed under the Kaiser's special orders—was made on October 11, when after two days tornado of shrapnel, the Prussian Guard, 14,000 of the best troops of Germany, were launched at the British trenches, overwhelmed them, charged almost up to the guns, only to be hurled back again considerably beyond their original position by artillery and rifle fire and a fierce bayonet charge. Since then the enemy has largely contented himself with cannonading; and with the assumption of the offensive before Christmas the Allies have progressed steadily both in Flanders and the Vosges and Alsace.

FRENCH GALLANTRY.

The history of operations in the latter region, veiled by a censorship even more exacting than that in Britain, will probably, one day, reveal some of the most furious fighting in the war. The difficulty of the country tends rather to guerilla warfare than regular campaigning. Losses on both sides have been heavy, but the conditions of the struggle suit the ardent temperament of the French soldiers better than the less individualist Teutonic nature; and especially in the closing days of the year good progress has been made against the German left.

If we are not allowed day by day to see much of the doings of French troops, subsequent evidence from many quarters bears witness not only to their undaunted bravery, but also to the coolness and quiet determination with which they have faced all fortunes. That General Joffre should have been able to hold his men in hand as he did during the long and trying retreat from Belgium, causing the enemy to pay the utmost price for every step of advance, is a marvellous tribute to the *morale* and discipline of the French army. Not less remarkable was the calm that prevailed throughout France in those dark days, when the German hosts swept nearer and nearer to Paris, and still the Allies' bugles sounded nothing but the retreat.

RAID ON EAST PRUSSIA.

German strategy calculated that Russia would require at least a month before her mobilization was complete, during which time Germany should be able to overwhelm France, before turning to meet her heavier and slower foe. The plan was worked out with a thoroughness of organization that deserves all praise. It failed, partly through Belgium's unexpectedly dogged resistance which kept off the attack on France for three weeks, partly through the superior strategy of General Joffre, partly through the utter collapse of the Austrian defence. When the Germans turned to face the Russians in earnest the latter were too strong for more than partial impressions to be made on them. On August 17 a lightly equipped force under General Rennenkampf invaded East Prussia by way of Lyck and Gumbinnen and advanced rapidly upon Johannisberg and Allenstein, throwing out wings in the direction of Königsberg and Thorn. The movement was never intended as more than a raid, but its moral effect was excellent in spreading alarm through Germany, at that time fed on endless stories of victory, and the German General Staff was compelled to detach large reinforcements from the western theatre, before which *Rennenkampf* was forced to retire. By mid-September he was behind the Nieman, not without loss, but with the satisfaction of having done good work in still further distracting the enemy from his main object.

THE AUSTRIAN DEFEATS.

The Russian invasion of Galicia was fairly under way by August 14, the Austrians utterly failing to stand before it and losing immense number of prisoners at every encounter. They endeavoured to make a stand at Lemberg but were effectually defeated, and this important town fell into Russian hands on September 3. Further successes between Krasnik and Tomascheff led to the capture of Jaroslav on September 21, and the investment of Przemyśl on the 29th. Interest now centres again on the East Prussian frontier. After *Rennenkampf's* retirement behind the Nieman the Germans had established themselves at Lyck and Augustovo, with outposts at Druskeniki on the Nieman, and were laying siege to Ossovez, just over the border in Poland southwards of Lyck. By a heavy

frontal attack on Druskeniki, begun about September 27, the Russians drove back the enemy through Augustovo forests and a combined flank movement from Suwalki in the north, and by Szczuczyn and Grajevo, in the region of Ossovez, taking the Germans on three sides, forced them back over the frontier. By October 3 the Russians could claim a marked success and were once more on German territory.

THE ATTACK ON WARSAW.

At this time it appeared that the Russians designed a double converging movement, one line through East Prussia, the other via Cracow and Silesia. But the failure of the Austrians had compelled the Germans to adopt new tactics. The shattered Austrian army was stiffened with German reinforcements and placed wholly under German command, large forces were called from the western theatre, and a strong expedition was launched diagonally across Poland at Warsaw early in October, while another attack was delivered through lower Poland against the Russian position on the San and the Vistula. That the Russians were unprepared for an attack on Warsaw from this precise direction appears as certain as that the Germans counted on success. But for bad weather delaying their march, and the bravery of three Siberian army corps, which for two days held the approaches to Warsaw against tremendous odds, that success might have been gained. As it was, by indefatigable marching the Russians succeeded by October 13 in bringing up troops from Novo Georgievsk and Gura Kalwaria, again taking the Germans on three sides, and forcing them to beat a hasty retreat. By effective ravaging of the country they were able to outdistance pursuit, and re-entered Germany at Kalisch. By October 23 the Russians had beaten back the Austro-German army from the San and the Vistula, although the threat to their line of communications had obliged them to raise the siege of Przemyśl. In Central Poland they were making their way along the line of the German retreat, occupying Lowicz, Lodz and Lenczyca, and on November 7 some Cossacks actually raided Plesch, a little northwards of Kalisch in Posen. In Galicia, Jaroslav was reoccupied on November 6 and by November 25 Russian advance guards had

forced some Carpathian passes and were descending on Hungary.

THE BATTLE OF LODZ.

A new German move was, however, impending. Profiting by the splendid railways of eastern Germany, General von Hindenberg transported numbers of his troops northwards to Thorn, and with additional reinforcements from the west commenced a new diagonal advance, this time from the northwest with the idea of cutting Russian communications at Skiernevice, eastwards of Lodz. This advance began about November 25, and to synchronize with it a strong frontal attack from the Kalisch-Czenstochovo line upon Lowicz. The result was that both sides nearly gained a decisive victory. The German diagonal broke through the Russian rear. But the gap was filled by reserves from the east and had the Russian general on the northern side been more speedy the Germans might have been hemmed in. As it was, they were again taken on three sides and suffered heavy losses before extricating themselves. The fact that on December 7 the Russians found it advisable to evacuate Lodz gave excuse to the Germans to claim a victory, in order to revive the drooping spirits of Berlin. But subsequent events have in no way justified this claim. If the Russians have had to call in some forces nearer the Vistula in order to withstand the weight of the German attack from the west—at present apparently the principal movement—they are continuing to drive back the Austrians in Galicia, and have effectually defeated a German assault from the north, via Mlawa, in the direction of Warsaw. One may hazard the guess that the Russian idea is to hold up the enormous German forces concentrated in central Poland, while they press the attack through Galicia, which, if successful, must ultimately turn the German position.

SERVIA AND MONTENEGRO.

Servia's share in the war began on July 29 with the simultaneous destruction by the Servians of the bridge to Semlin, and the bombardment by Austria of Belgrade, whence the Government had already removed to Kragujevac. Montenegro at once signified her intentions of throwing in her lot with Servia by massing troops at Priborg, al-

though the Austrian Minister did not leave Cetinje till August 7. It is regrettable from the point of view of the credit due to these courageous nations that their exploits should have been so much overshadowed by events elsewhere. The Austrian assault on Belgrade quickly weakened in consequence of the serious position in Galicia, and by August 5 Servian advance guards were pressing into Bosnia. The history of the next three months is one of desperate endeavours by Servians and Montenegrins to reach Serajevo. Again and again it appeared as if they might do so, but always they were baffled, although there is no doubt that they continually inflicted the most irksome losses on Austria.

Towards the end of November the German generals appear to have decided that an end must be made of Servia once and for all, and large forces were massed upon the Drina before which the Servians fell back, ultimately evacuating Belgrade, which was occupied by the enemy on December 1. The Servians, however, reformed at Grotzka, fell upon the advancing enemy and, as even the German press has been unable to deny, inflicted on him a signal defeat, capturing large quantities of ammunition and guns and numerous prisoners. By the middle of December the Austrians had again been chased over the Drina, and the Montenegrins with unquenched vigour were besieging Vishegrad. What might, in Napoleon's phrase, be called "the open sore" of the Balkans is by no means staunch-ed.

FIGHTING AT SEA.

The naval side of the war has been distinctly sporadic with but three engagements that involved more than a pair of duellists, the German fleet keeping carefully within harbour, and seeking by means of submarines and mines to lessen the immense superiority of the British fleet. On August 5 the Koenigin Louise, a mine-layer, was sunk near the mouth of the Thames by H. M. S. Amphion, but on the 7th the Amphion herself struck a mine and sank. On September 7 H. M. S. Pegasus was disabled by the Koenigsburg while repairing her machinery at Zanzibar; and on the 22nd the Aboukir, Hogue and Cressy, cruisers of 12,000 tons built in 1901-2, were torpedoed by submarines in the North Sea, with a loss of 1,400

men and sixty officers. This was in essentials the worst reverse suffered by the British Navy, and the Admiralty was obliged to issue a warning that attempts to save the crew of a stricken ship must not be made (as had been done by the Hogue and Cressy) while there was any risk of enemy in the vicinity. On October 16 German submarines claimed another cruiser, the Hawke; and on November 1 the old cruiser *Hermes* was torpedoed in the Channel, but the crew were saved. On November 1, the *Good Hope*, *Monmouth* and *Glasgow* fell in with the *Scharnhorst*, *Gneisenau*, *Leipzig*, *Dresden* and *Nurnberg* off the coast of Chile. Outpaced and outweighed in guns, the *Good Hope* and *Monmouth* were sunk, the *Glasgow* escaping. On November 26 H. M. S. *Bulwark*, an old battleship, blew up at her moorings at Sheerness while loading ammunition, and all her crew were lost. On December 16 German cruisers made a raid towards the Yorkshire coast and threw some shells into Scarborough, Whitby and Hartlepool, killing or wounding between 100 and 150 civilians—the accounts vary.

So much for British losses, the fact of which is regrettable only for the men lost. The ships sunk have already more than been replaced by the number of superior vessels added to the Navy since the war began, and not all the activity of German submarines and commerce-destroyers, nor the shameless German practice of spreading mines in neutral waters has checked the freedom of the seas or the transportation of vast masses of troops from continent to continent.

THE EMDEN'S RAID.

On August 9 H.M.S. *Birmingham* sank a German submarine in the North Sea. On the 27th the *Highflyer* sank the *Kaiser der Grosse*, an armed merchantman, off the coast of West Africa. On the 28th British destroyers and light cruisers entered Heligoland Bay and tempted out a number of German cruisers and destroyers, of which three cruisers and two destroyers were sunk in the open, with virtually no loss to the British. On October 17 four German destroyers were sunk off the coast of Holland, where also on the 24th H. M. S. *Badger* sank a submarine; and on November 24 another submarine was sunk off Scotland. On December 8, the *Scharnhorst*,

Gneisenau and *Leipzig* and afterwards the *Nurnberg* were sunk off the Falkland Islands by a British Squadron under Vice-Admiral Sturdee, with insignificant loss to the British. A brilliant raid on Cuxhaven by hydroplanes, destroyers and submarines was made on Christmas day. One British hydroplane was lost but its commander was rescued by a Dutch trawler; and a German airship and hydrogen plant were wrecked.

In addition to the above Germany lost the *Yorck* and *Magdeburg*, two cruisers, in the Baltic and there is good reason to believe that the Russians accounted by a successful ruse for some destroyers and light cruisers. On August 17 the French fleet sank two Austrian battleships in the Adriatic, and the Turkish battleship *Messoudieh* was brilliantly submarined in the Dardanelles on December 14, the British vessel diving under five rows of mines and lying submerged for eleven hours.

The exploits of the *Emden*, a fast cruiser which got away from Tsingtao about August 17, attracted world-wide attention. Between September 10 and November 9 she sank thirteen British merchantmen in the regions of India, bombarded Madras, sank the Russian cruiser *Jemtchug* and a French destroyer at Penang (Oct. 28) and damaged the cable station at Cocos Island. Here, however, she was at last caught by the Australian cruiser *Sydney* which picked up a wireless call and arrived in the nick of time. The *Emden* was driven ashore, a total wreck, and about 350 of her crew perished. Her captain was saved, to the general satisfaction of friend and foe alike. He was a gallant fighter. The same day, (Nov. 9) H.M.S. *Chatham* succeeded in bottling up another notable commerce destroyer, the *Konigsberg*, in the Rufigi river, German East Africa. There she remains. The *Karlsruhe*, which has destroyed upwards of 60,000 tons of British shipping in the Atlantic is still at large, as is the *Dresden*, last heard of at Punta Arenas.

Jan 6.

TURKEY DRAGGED IN.

Although at the opening of the war Turkey had ordered a general mobilization, her conduct did not at first arouse particular suspicion. With the arrival in the Dardanelles of the German cruisers *Goeben* and *Breslau*, which had run the gauntlet of the Mediterranean

after firing a few shots at Algiers, the atmosphere darkened. Called upon to intern the German ships, Turkey returned evasive answers, pretended to have bought them, refused to take out the German crews. Throughout August she was making feverish preparations for war, especially in Syria, whence a descent upon Egypt was planned. At the outbreak of war Great Britain had definitely assured Turkey that, if she remained neutral, her independence and integrity would be respected during war and in the terms of peace. But Turkey's Government was in the hands of the Young Turks and they in the hands of Germany. On October 2 the Dardanelles were closed to all foreign shipping—a blow at Russia's trade. On the 14th it became known that the captain of the *Goeben* had been appointed commander-in-chief of the Turkish fleet, and on the 28th the *Goeben* with one or two Turkish battleships, sallied forth into the Black Sea and without warning or provocation of any kind attacked Theodosia and Sebastopol. A more treacherous act could hardly be conceived. Turkey had indeed fallen low under German management. The British, French and Russian Ambassadors left Constantinople on November 1, and a dignified statement was issued in London enumerating the many violations of neutrality committed by Turkey and Great Britain's efforts to keep the peace. During November and December there was some fighting along the mountains southward of the Black Sea in the direction of Erzerum, between Russian and Turkish forces, the intensity of which it is difficult to gauge, and some naval skirmishing in the Black Sea, the *Goeben* being severely injured by Russian men-of-war which approached under cover of fog. The threatened descent upon Egypt has not yet materialized. On the other hand Great Britain on November 6 formally annexed Cyprus which she had administered since 1878 for Turkey; declared a protectorate over Egypt on December 17, with Hussein Kamel, uncle of the ex-Khedive as Sultan, and Colonel Sir Arthur McMahon, Financial Secretary of India, as High Commissioner; and, by a brilliant little expedition of Indian troops and marines in the Persian Gulf, had by December 8 captured the best part of the rich country surrounding the

in the Nanking cut-off, in the latter part of August, using their wireless; and did not dare to protest against the use made of the Tsinanfu-Tsingtao railway to import ammunition, stores and men into Tsingtao.

Having completed coaling and provisioning in twenty-four hours, part of the China Squadron sailed north to protect Yangtze trade, which was pronounced free to move except near Tsingtao by August 11, the rest going on a cruise to destroy the German telegraph station at Yap. After a brief return to the China coast, the bulk of the Squadron departed to join in the hunt for commerce-destroyers, while H. M. SS. *Triumph* and *Usk*, which had captured several important prizes, were detailed to escort the British troops, South Wales Borderers and 36th Sikhs, from Tientsin to cooperate in the siege of Tsingtao. On August 25 the destroyer *Kennet* got too near to one of the forts at Tsingtao and was hit by a shell, but made her way safely to Weihaiwei, although several men were killed and injured. It may here be remarked that, in consequence of abuse of parole, all Germans of non-military age were ordered out of Singapore and Hongkong on October 25, men of military age being interned: and on October 31, as a proof of German influence in Peking, Mr. H. Woodhead was summarily dismissed from the editorship of the "Peking Gazette", supposed to be a purely Chinese paper though published in English. Between mid-October and the close of the year, some 200 British subjects, volunteers for active service, left for Home, under the auspices of the China Association, passages having been largely paid by public subscription. Some of these men were recommended for commissions by Sir John Jordan, who came to Shanghai to examine them.

THE FALL OF TSINGTAO.

The menace to the tranquillity of the Far East exercised by Tsingtao, and the disturbance of trade, necessitated Japan's taking a hand in the war under the terms of the Anglo-Japanese Alliance, and on August 15 she delivered an ultimatum to Germany calling on her to surrender Kiaochow or take the consequences. It was never supposed that Germany would yield to such a demand, and on August 27 Japan declared a blockade of Tsingtao

and began to transport troops to Lungkow for the siege by land.

China entered several protests against this entry of her territory and especially against the subsequent seizure of the railway to Tsinanfu—protests which completely overlooked three important points: (1) that as Kiaochow was merely leased territory it ought never to have been permitted to fortify itself, and could certainly claim no immunity from attack on the strength of China's neutrality; (2) that the railway had freely been used before the siege by the Germans for purposes of war in defiance of China's neutrality and of its being theoretically a Chinese railway; (3) that Tsinanfu was full of Germans who could certainly not be expected to neglect any chance of incommoding the Japanese from the rear, which the retention under German management of any portion of the line might offer. The attitude of Yuan Shih-kai in this crisis was wise and temperate, and the declaration by China of a war zone in Shantung solved all difficulties. But for a while German influence in Peking and Shantung very nearly provoked an explosion between China and Japan, which was largely averted by the studiously correct conduct of the latter and the discipline maintained by the Japanese generals. A furious threat from Berlin that China should one day pay dearly for having failed to stop Japan's operations revealed to the Chinese how very little value was to be attached to the many protestations of friendship Germany had offered her.

The siege of Tsingtao was a very tame affair. Hampered by bad weather, and with no need to hurry themselves, the Japanese did not get their siege guns in position until October 31, the Emperor's birthday, when the bombardment of the forts began. Tsingtao fell on November 7, having blazed away an enormous amount of ammunition but offered no real resistance, especially considering the natural strength of the position. In fact, at the end the Japanese were practically allowed to walk in, their total losses amounting to but a few hundreds killed and wounded, while the British losses were to be reckoned in tens. At sea the siege cost the invaders the cruiser *Takachiho*, torpedoed by the *S 90* on October 17, but the *S 90* was so much injured that she had

to be beached, her crew afterwards being interned. The Japanese also lost one destroyer, one torpedo-boat and three minesweepers. The defenders lost the Austrian cruiser *Kaiserin Elisabeth*, five gunboats and two destroyers. Tsingtao was put under Japanese military administration and by the close of the year normal trade conditions were returning for all except, of course, Germans. Among the Chinese, assiduously fed by German press agencies on false reports of German invincibility, the fall of Tsingtao, and especially the weak manner of that fall, dealt an irreparable blow to German prestige, already blackened by the brutality of German conduct in Belgium and France.

NEUTRAL COUNTRIES.

Some general features of the war may be noted in conclusion. Of the neutral countries Holland, Switzerland, Rumania, Spain and Denmark early declared their neutrality and took steps by mobilization and, in Denmark's case, by mining the coast, to enforce it. Great efforts were and continue to be made by Germany to induce Italy to throw in her lot with the Triple Alliance, but the Italian Government has steadily maintained neutrality, although the vast mass of the population, hating Austria and long friendly to Britain and France, would gladly join the Entente Allies. Portugal, the Ally of Great Britain since so far back as the reign of Edward III, decided that she would not declare herself neutral, but would open her ports to the use of the Allies' men-of-war. Furthermore, on November 24, the Portuguese Government announced preparations for any eventuality that might occur, if necessary even for making war. In the Balkans, Serbia has been advised by the Powers to make certain territorial concessions to Bulgaria as the price of her continued neutrality, Bulgaria being alarmed at the accession to Servian strength promised by the war. But Bulgaria, even if a waverer, of which there is no adequate evidence, is set off by Greece, which is so much in favour of the Allies as hardly to be reckoned neutral. In Rumania, where King Charles passed away on October 10, the new King is reported to be pro-German, but to be weighed down by the Crown Prince, the Queen and the bulk of popular feeling, which

dreams of restoring Rumanian power in Transsylvania.

In America, public opinion sides strongly with the Allies, and there is some feeling, headed by Colonel Roosevelt, that as a signatory to the Hague Conventions which Germany has violated by her conduct towards Belgium and her methods of warfare, America's neutrality should not have prevented her raising a vigorous protest against these acts. At the close of the year Washington addressed a Note to Great Britain on the question of trade in contraband between neutral nations, but President Wilson took special pains to emphasize the essentially friendly nature of the Note, and the difficulty will doubtless be adjusted easily enough. The point is to ascertain that contraband cargoes destined for neutral shores are for consumption only in that neutral country.

KING GEORGE IN FRANCE.

Turning to Great Britain, on the outbreak of war Lord Kitchener, then at Home on short leave from Egypt, was immediately appointed Secretary for War, and his appeals for two million recruits met with so rapid a response, and the drilling and equipment of the men was so effectually pursued, that, early in the New Year, the formation of six new armies, each of three army corps, could be announced, independently of the numbers continually sent on to the Continent, those retained for coast defence in England and in Egypt, India and elsewhere. At the Admiralty, Prince Louis of Battenberg resigned the post of First Sea Lord on October 29 and was succeeded by Lord Fisher. On November 15, to the grief of all the Empire, Fieldmarshal Earl Roberts died in France, the result of a chill contracted while visiting the troops at the front. Finance will be dealt with in a separate article, but it may here be mentioned that when Parliament, prorogued on August 18, was reopened by the King on November 11, Mr. Lloyd George announced a war loan of £350,000,000 and foreshadowed a new war taxation. The loan, at 3½ per cent., was issued at 95 on November 17 and immediately largely over-subscribed. The financial and industrial conditions of Great Britain remained at the close of the year thoroughly satisfactory, and prices were practically normal. Nothing could more clearly

indicate the confidence of the Allies, than the visit paid by King George to the armies in the field at the beginning of December, and the banquet given by His Majesty at British Headquarters, at which were present King Albert of the Belgians, President Poincaré, Generalissimo Joffre and Field-Marshal French.

RUSSIA'S GREAT FEAT.

Jan. 7.

The anxiety with which the fighting in what is conveniently called the eastern theatre of war is being watched is proportionate to the immensity of the field of operations and the indefatigable gallantry of Russia's armies. Difficult as it is to follow the progress of fighting in detail, we can realize that in no fewer than six directions Russia is maintaining a desperate struggle; and while Germany, in spite of concentrating in Central Poland all reinforcements that can be spared from the western theatre, has so far utterly failed in the main objective. Russia has scored notable successes in all other directions. She has inflicted a heavy reverse on the Turks at Sarykamysh in the Caucasus, and at Ardahan or Ardagan in Trans-Caucasia has routed another Turkish force. Probably the Turks are lacking in equipment. But their part in the war is to distract Russian troops from other regions and this they can do well enough. In Bukovina, the extreme southeast of Galicia, the Austro-German attack, designed to turn the Russian left flank and raise the siege of Przemyśl has ignominiously failed, as even Vienna admits, and Russia has, for the time being, cleared the province of her enemy who has lost heavily. On the lower Nida, which runs into the Vistula about forty miles east of Cracow, and in Western Galicia, Russia's record is one of slow but steady progress, again admitted in Vienna. In the direction of Mława, which lies in northern Poland a short distance from the East Prussian border, she has staved off a German invasion that might have developed into a flank advance on Warsaw. And in Central Poland she has successfully stonewalled against the mightiest guns and heaviest masses of infantry that Germany could bring to bear, till even Berlin's official voice begins to sound a discouraged note.

It is on this last district that the greatest interest naturally centres, and a brief description of geography may serve to show what has been happening. After the evacuation of Lodz on December 7, which, it will be remembered, formed a salient in the Russian line impracticable to be held without useless expenditure of life, the Russians appear to have withdrawn into the rough square that is bounded by the Pilica, flowing into the Vistula, on the south; by the Vistula on the east and north; and by the Bzura, flowing into the Vistula, and the Rawa, flowing into the Bzura, on the west. The sources of the Rawa begin very nearly from the Pilica, rising in some hills round Novo-Miasto, which, as affording an inlet into the Russian square, has been mentioned more than once as a scene of hard encounter. A little westwards of Rawa, another tributary of the Bzura named the Skierniewka (on which stands the town of Skierniewice) forms an additional

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rampart. It will thus be seen that the Russians held a very strong position entrenched on the Pilica, the Bzura and the Rāvka. Apparently they also had forces thrown out westwards, on the right, or south, bank of the Pilica, in the direction of Tomaszow, where we have heard of their holding the Germans. But the brunt of the German attack has always been on the Bzura and the Rāvka. For this attack, as has been said, the enemy withdrew all possible troops from the west, and seems to have hurled himself upon the Russian lines after the approved Tentic style of "hacking a way through." Once or twice he has succeeded in gaining a foothold on the right bank (that is inside the square) of these historic streams, but sooner or later has been thrown back. Even Berlin, which lays claim to have captured Skiernewice, does not pretend to have done much on the Bzura and Rāvka. Indeed the Berlin *communiqué* of December 26 admitted that the attacks on the Bzura had been relaxed, and there has been no evidence since that date of any fighting here at all comparable to what had gone before.

The importance of the failure to break into the Russian square is that, as has been said, it baulks the Germans of their main object. The statement attributed to the German Kaiser, "Let us first take Warsaw and afterwards we can deal with the west," is probably not far from the truth. There is evidence from several quarters that the German Government is in real need of some striking capture in order to reassure the German public. The rush to Paris failed, the march to Calais failed. It remains if possible to capture Warsaw. If that attempt fails, it means not only a disappointment in Berlin which may have serious results, but an inevitable weakening of some of the best of Germany's troops. Looking, therefore, to the future it seems improbable that Russia will attempt any advance west of the Bzura for the present. Armchair criticism is a danger we would gladly avoid. But it does appear that the obvious wisdom is to stonewall on the East Prussian front, stonewall against Turkey, stonewall on the Bzura—and press the attack where the repeated defeats of the Austrians render the enemy's defence likely to be weakest, in western Galicia. For, sooner or later, the Russian

advance in this quarter must begin to threaten the long German line of communications in Central Poland. There is also the hope, supported on the formation of Britain's six new armies, that the offensive in the west will shortly begin to relieve the pressure on Russia's devoted armies. Already the names of Altkirch, Thann and Upper Alsace, scarce heard of since the first fortnight of the war, begin to reappear in the telegrams; and the mention of them may have an ominous meaning for German fortunes.

A NEW RAILWAY JUNCTION ROUND SHANGHAI.

LINKING THE HANGCHOW AND NANKING LINES.

An important railway junction, which will have an enormous effect upon the transportation of goods from the interior of China to Shanghai and other influential centres, inasmuch as it will connect the Shanghai-Nanking railway with the Shanghai-Hangchow railway, will shortly be under construction. The difficulties which have attended the conveying of passengers and freight by the Shanghai-Hangchow-Ningpo railway have long been felt, and when the new line is working many of these difficulties will be overcome.

Surveying the Route.

The junction will pass, for the most part, through Jessfield and Sicawei, and will do away with the inconvenience caused by the unfavourable situation of the local terminus of the Shanghai-Hangchow line. The survey of the line, which commenced early in October, has been completed, and once the purchase of the land has been effected, the work of construction will immediately proceed.

The line will pass through comparatively plain country, although not a few difficulties have been experienced in the matter of avoiding villages consistently with getting the most direct route. Fortunately, these have been satisfactorily surmounted, and only about three houses will have to come down.

The Direction of the Line.

The line will follow the existing Shanghai-Nanking Railway line as far as the two mile post, from where it will branch off to the left hand side and run along the Soochow Creek, which it will cross near the ferry at Jessfield, close to St. John's College. It will then proceed in an almost straight southerly direction, and pass the Nanyang College within half-a-mile or so. After crossing the Sicawei Creek, the line will go

on towards Lunghua, passing to the south of the powder factory and the pagoda, and will join the Shanghai-Hangchow line about 4½ miles from the terminus of that railway. The total distance of the actual junction line will be 8½ miles, excluding the two miles of existing line over which trains for the junction will run. There will be two stations, one between Jessfield and Brennan Roads—which will be called Jessfield station—and the other will be practically opposite the Nanyang College, and will be known as the Sicawei station. This station will be situated about 1,000ft. from the creek, and will serve the Sicawei district and that in the vicinity of the Hungjao Road.

Bridges and Culverts.

The fact that the line crosses so many large and small creeks makes the construction of bridges and culverts a big work. In the 8½ miles of railway there will be four bridges and numerous culverts. The biggest bridge will be over the Soochow Creek at Jessfield, and will have a single span of 145ft., resting on two abutments. There will be another bridge over the Sicawei Creek with a 60ft. span. This will be a rather unique construction, being not only a skew bridge, but one with a curve. Another bridge, with a 45ft. span, will cross the creek about 2½ miles from the Shanghai-Nanking railway station, and the fourth will be near Lunghua, this having a span of 30ft. The culverts will, of course, be of various sizes.

An Immense Boon.

The tremendous advantages to be derived from the new junction will at once be seen. With the linking up of the Shanghai-Hangchow railway with Ningpo, passengers and goods can be conveyed to Nanking without changing, which in itself is a most important factor. The trains coming from Hangchow will be divided at the junction of the new line and the Shanghai-Hangchow line, and those for Nanking will be conveyed across the new line to the Shanghai-Nanking railway station, and from there to Nanking. This will be particularly useful in the transportation of troops, who will not be under the necessity of leaving the train at the terminus in the native city and marching across the Settlements to the Shanghai-Nanking railway station, which at present is the case.

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NOTES & COMMENTS.

Jan. 1.

THE AMERICAN NOTE.

The reception which both the American and the British Press have accorded to the American Note shows that any disputes between the two Governments will be conducted in the friendliest way. It cannot be very long before we are in full possession of the facts, which, in the opinion of the American Government, made the Note necessary. Meanwhile, it is interesting to observe how quickly President Wilson's admission that certain American shippers have been to blame has followed on his statements in regard to "legitimate" American trade.

WIRELESS "JAMMING."

According to the report of the captain of H.M.S. Glasgow on the naval fight in the Pacific, the German ships "jammed" the wireless message sent by Admiral Craddock telling the Canopus that he was about to attack the enemy. As yet we do not know whether the message reached the Canopus, but it is improbable that the enemy's "jamming" made any difference. Commander F. G. Loring, R.N., has something to say on this point in the "Naval Annual," and his conclusion is that, given good apparatus and a competent operator, it is absolutely impossible for an enemy to prevent a message getting through, though it might be delayed for a short time. The whole question of wireless "jamming" (which consists in sending out powerful waves of different lengths) has been put to severe tests in recent naval manoeuvres, and in one instance it was reported that, although the enemy was busy "jamming" for forty consecutive hours, no serious interference resulted. Certain conditions existing in the atmosphere are far more potent to disorganize wireless communication than any method intentionally used by an enemy.

THE DEMAND FOR KHAKI.

According to the Huddersfield correspondent of the "Manchester Guardian," the manufacture of khaki and other army cloth is proceeding with extraordinary vigour. Never before was so little ordinary cloth produced. The working of overtime is very extensive, and machinery is being run both day and night. Despite this pressure, however, the demand for khaki is always in excess of the supply. Every few weeks the British troops at the front require new uniforms, so that although the

Government is said to have ordered 10,000 miles of cloth, more will probably be required. It is said, too, that the Allies will look to Great Britain for a large quantity of army cloth, and, indeed, some contracts for France and Belgium are already well in hand. In addition, a large order for the Greek Government has come to hand. There are, therefore, good grounds for assuming that the present prosperity of the woollen trade will continue for several months. The production of khaki has become more profitable so far as manufacturers are concerned, the enhanced price of wools having been more than covered by the additional shilling a yard which the War Office is paying. It's an ill wind that blows nobody any good.

LETTERS TO TSINGTAO.

It would be interesting to know how long the present postal obstruction to Tsingtao is to continue.irate subscribers, and not unjustly so it would seem, are besieging us with unavailing requests to supply them with newspapers in Tsingtao as before. The Japanese postmaster informs us that newspapers can only be addressed to "Headquarters, Japanese Garrison," while information from the Chinese Post Office states that mail matter for Tsingtao is at present forwarded to Tsinan for transmission to Tsingtao as soon as circumstances permit, and that mail matter sent up till now, has, as far as is known here, not been transmitted to Tsingtao, and is still lying at Tsinan awaiting developments. Accustomed as most foreigners are, to the unfailing accuracy and regularity with which mail matter is handled at home, the haphazard way of the East frets the most placid of tempers.

BRITONS AS TEA DRINKERS.

Statistics show that the British rank easily first among tea-drinking nations. From these we learn that if a Briton, an American, a Russian, a German, an Austrian, a Frenchman, and an Italian were to sit down together and order drinks in a quantity that would show the relative consumption of these beverages by their respective nations, some would get enough for a bath, while others would obtain only a few mouthfuls. To put the matter in terms of cups: if the races sat down to tea, the Briton would find himself confronted with 1,800 cups the American with 400, the Russian with 275, the German with 36, the Austrian with 20 the Frenchman with 18, and the Italian with only 1. And yet with all the experience that these figures imply, the vast majority of Britons prefer Indian to China tea.

Jan. 5.

A CHINESE STOCK EXCHANGE.

The text of the newly promulgated law governing the establishment of Chinese Stock Exchanges, reference to which appears in today's Mandates, will be awaited with interest. It has been known for some time that certain prominent Chinese were interesting themselves in the matter, and the law just announced is doubtless the result of representations made to Peking from various quarters, particularly Shanghai. In the absence of definite information as to the scope of the law, it can only now be said that the need for a Chinese Stock Exchange in Shanghai is by no means imperative. With the exception of the China Merchants Company, and a few other enterprises, there are no companies here the shares of which are dealt in exclusively by Chinese, and as for the remaining companies, the existing machinery for buying and selling amply covers both Chinese and foreign needs. The great majority of Chinese interested on the share market do their business directly with foreign brokers, most of the business done in this way being conducted by compradores in the leading firms and through native banks. It is to be noted that Chinese investment in industrial concerns is not heavy, holders of capital preferring to use it for pure speculation or investment in land. On the face of it, there does not appear to be much scope for a purely Chinese Stock Exchange, an institution which of course, would have to work without the support of the foreign banks. In the event of a Chinese exchange being established here, it can scarcely affect the present course of business.

BOUGAINVILLE ISLAND.

Bougainville Island, in the north-west of the Solomon Group, has figured in romantic stories of travel. The island, which is about 150 miles long by twenty-five to forty miles wide, is separated from Choiseul Island, which with Buka and other smaller islands to the east were transferred to Great Britain on November 14, 1899, by a strait which was discovered in 1768 by Louis Antoine Bougainville, commander of the first French expedition that circumnavigated the globe. This expedition left France in 1766 and did not return for two years, after many strange experiences, not the least exciting of which were provided by the natives of the southern Pacific islands. Bougainville Island, with its mountains and dense tropical cultivation, has now been captured by an Australian force, which threatens

to plant the Union Jack on every island Germany owned in the Pacific at the beginning of August.

THE SUPPLY OF HORSES.

The popularity of the motor car has been held to be largely responsible for a decline in horse-breeding in Europe in recent years. But an American veterinary surgeon, Dr. Martin J. Potter, who is reported to have received an order to supply Great Britain with 30,000 horses, is convinced that the majority of people are labouring under a misapprehension on this point. He does not believe that there is any fear of the horse becoming extinct at the end of the present war, but argues that, notwithstanding the heavy casualties, the war will only tend to increase the price of horses and give an impetus to horse breeding. Dr. Potter states that in the United States the horse to-day is more popular than he has ever been and that there are over five millions in the country, while there are more horses in the world to-day than at any period in history.

MAILS TO TSINGTAO.

We have received the following most satisfactory letter from the Japanese Postmaster in Shanghai:—

"I beg to inform you that letters, postcards, newspapers, books, printed matter, and photographs—

both ordinary and registered—may hereafter be sent to the general public in Tsingtao at the domestic rate through this office."

Not merely is this intimation welcome as regards the delivery of mails, but it also typifies a satisfactory return to normality as regards Tsingtao.

Jan. 6.

OPIUM AND BANKS.

We have no desire to enter into any controversy with Dr. H. V. S. Myers, whose opinion of municipal morality is too contemptible to be discussed. But while he continues to launch indiscriminate charges of mutual back-scratching at the Council, he might at least be careful of facts. He has argued that, because the Council contains one merchant and two bankers interested in opium, therefore the other six councillors will naturally protect opium, with an eye to similar protection in their own special interests (irrespective of public interests) another day. If that is not Dr. Myers' opinion, crudely expressed, his two recent letters have no meaning. Now the bankers on the Council are the manager of the Deutsch-Asiatische Bank and the International Banking Corporation. Would Dr. Myers be interested to know that neither of these two, either personally, or for the bank that he represents, is interested to the extent of one copper cent in opium? Such is an absolute fact. We seem, then, to be

left with one of three alternatives. Either that the one member of the Council who may or may not have some concern in opium (we have no direct knowledge either way) is a very powerful person. Or that the Council's morality is even lower than Dr. Myers thinks it is. Or that Dr. Myers is as careless about the facts of what he says as he is of making dishonourable accusations against an honourable body of men.

THE BAR AND THE WAR.

In view of the ready way in which the Shanghai Bar has responded to the call of national duty, it is interesting to note what members of the legal profession at home are doing. Only forty-seven students, says the "Law Journal," have been called this term: eighteen at the Middle Temple, eleven at Gray's Inn, ten at Lincoln's and eight at the Inner Temple. The small number of calls at the Inner Temple, which usually heads the list, is particularly indicative of the readiness with which Bar students, especially those coming from the Universities, have responded to the call to arms. The list, when it is examined, shows more clearly than at the first glance how the completion of legal studies of English students has been interfered with. Twenty of the forty-seven newly called barristers belong to India or other portions of the King's dominions beyond the seas.



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ARISTOCRATS OF THE CAUCASUS.

The Russians are the dominant race in the Caucasus, but the aristocrats of the region are the Georgians. A people of mysterious antecedents—their race, according to some ethnologists, being older, even, than the Egyptians—they stand upon a higher plane of civilization and culture than any of their neighbours. Formerly, Georgia was an independent kingdom, and its people, converted to Christianity in the fourth century, have never relapsed into the Mohammedanism of the surrounding tribes. Their golden age was the twelfth century, in the days of the great Queen Tamara. There are no more kings in Georgia but an amazing number of princes—in fact, as a writer in the "Pall Mall Gazette" reminds us, it is a standing joke amongst the Russians that every Georgian, whatever his occupation, boasts a title. It might be added, with very little exaggeration that every Georgian is a poet.

MUTUAL AID IN RUSSIA.

Prince Kropotkin's "Mutual Aid" is a book which, though written many years ago, is still fresh and suggestive. It is especially interesting at a time like the present when the co-operative movement in Russia is bearing such splendid fruit. Ten years ago the number of members of different co-operative societies hardly exceeded 300,000. To-day it has reached the impressive figure of 7,000,000. To estimate the real importance of such a movement, it must be borne in mind that a Russian co-operative society is not merely a commercial institution. It supports usually a popular library, a hall for lectures and theatrical performances, often starts a temperance club and is, in short, a centre of culture. During the present war the co-operative societies have proved of immense value for the Russian Army commissariat and its Red Cross organization.

PICCADILLY'S EAGLES.

While most people know that the Prussian eagle forms the crest of the 14th (King's) Hussars, not very many, probably, know the historical connexion between it and Piccadilly's eagles, those on the fascias of the shops erected on what was once part of the site of the Duke of York and Albany's house. The Duke, second son of George III, married Princess Frederica, the Princess Royal of Prussia and daughter of King Frederick William II of Prussia. The Prussian eagle became the crest of the 14th Hussars in consequence and was mounted on the Duke of Albany's House also. Later, the property was disposed of, and the wall of the courtyard fronting Piccadilly taken down. But

the eagles received a new perch and are London's emblems of the Prussian connexion to this day.

FROM THE PULPIT.

Notes of a sermon preached in Union Church on Sunday morning, January 3, by the Rev. C. E. Darwent.

St. Luke XXI. 34. "But take heed to yourselves lest haply your hearts be overcharged with surfeiting and drunkenness and cares of this life."

To many who read this sombre chapter, with its lurid descriptions of the last things, of wars and earthquakes and such like dire portents, it may seem as if our Lord had yoked sins of the deepest dye, "surfeiting and drunkenness", with a sin of an altogether milder type, so mild, that it hardly strikes the majority of us as a really heinous sin at all—overcarefulness and anxiety. We consider that that is a misfortune, an undesirable state of mind, but not so bad as "surfeiting, or gluttony and drunkenness."

But here it is. Jesus warns us against it in this most solemn address that still strikes the heart with awe. "Be not overcharged with cares of this life." Now, this is the first Sunday of a New Year, a year more fraught with tremendous possibilities than any year we have ever known. It is thus natural and inevitable that our mind is a prey to great anxieties; as to our native countries, as to dear friends who may be involved in the war: for there are probably few who have not someone affected: as to business, our very living; and as to the great cause which we never cease to think about, the cause of Christ in the world! What more natural than that we are all anxious, burdened, full of care, attempting, as writers in the papers do, to forecast the future, and forestall damage to ourselves by our prescience! To be anxious is all so natural: It is specially so this year: but it is true in a measure of all years and all life. We wonder, we vex ourselves, we strain our imagination to see into the future. This age in which we live is notorious for its anxieties. The well-known Rev. D. Crawford—the author of "Thinking Black" says that on his return home from twenty-three years in Africa, the thing that struck him most was the anxious look, or the want of happiness on the faces of the majority of people he met on the streets. I presume we shall agree that there is a great deal of anxiety in human life to-day. The proof of it is the increase of lunacy, and the numbers of people who 'break down' in various ways, with no definite disease, but just what it is called 'a general breakdown.'

What then does the Saviour, who knew human life, and who bore

in his heart the tremendous responsibility of saving the world, say about this careworn spirit of to-day? He treats it most seriously, placing it here among sins like drunkenness which shuts a man out from the kingdom of heaven. Yet he shows no sympathy to those who treat the future lightly, to the people who are not disturbed, just because they do not think about it at all. Neither can the people who make small witticisms over Christians insuring, insinuating that they have no faith in God. His statement of the case is the supreme proof of the marvellous balance of the mind of the Saviour. He is against ~~care~~ of care—against overdriven and foolish worked-up care, that does no good at all, that only paralyzes the faculties. Take heed lest haply your hearts be overcharged with surfeiting and drunkenness and cares of this life. He does not say that we have not to eat, not to drink, and not to be careful: but, "take heed that ye be not overcharged with gluttony, drinking and anxiety. We have not to over-eat, over-drink and be over-careful, and over-anxious. The word he uses means being weighted down, carrying a pack that is ridiculously beyond our strength. This command, that he gives, while he is conjuring up a picture of the final events of our world's tragic history, is a warning as to the way we are to take the wars, the earthquakes and famines that presage His coming, when they do arrive. We have to think about them, and dwell on them, and shape our life in view of such tremendous eventualities: but there is a wrong and a right way of looking forward to these events that herald His coming. There is the paralyzing way, the way of fear and anxiety, that makes us incapable of a proper fulfilment of our duties now: and there is the way of right and sane calm forwardlooking like His own, the way of care that is not being over-anxious care.

"Be not overcharged." O how wise! There is no pretention of Stoic impassiveness, the stony kind; no indifference to trouble: there is no justification for those who fight anxiety by denying that there is such a thing as care at all. There is no foolish excess of calmness, no heartless freedom from a proper care. What Jesus says is: "Be not overcharged." What a great word that it! Overcharged! Being charged is natural and proper and useful, but not being overcharged. How simple is the principle! What a library of wisdom Jesus packs into a word. An engine can drive the machinery it has been given it to drive if worked up to its limit; but if it has 70 horse-power and you work it to 90 there will be trouble. No wise engineer over-drives his engine. And when we come to living things, Jesus finds this wonderful

unity running through the dead and animate world. What becomes of a horse if it is overdriven and over-ridden? We know what happens. There is a breakdown and collapse. Nothing that either God or man has made can stand being overcharged. That is a plain law of human life, and religion has its base in the common laws of life. It is not a jumble of miraculous injunctions from the unseen world. That is what so many think it, but it is not so. Religion is plain wisdom. And this is the word of Jesus; that what is true of engines and horses and everything else is true of the life of the soul, "Lest haply your heart be overcharged with the cares of life!" Think about them: pray about them, be wise, be as far-sighted as you can—but when you have done all you can, leave it in the hands of God: have faith; trust him. Many people are fond of quoting "trust in God—but keep your powder dry." Yes: but how many trust only to the powder and have no faith in God. Jesus is warning us against exaggerated care, killing care, anxious care, that habit of mind that does not know the limit beyond which legitimate care and forethought must not go. Be charged, charged as much as you like with thoughtful care: deduce probabilities for the future from the past and do your best to safeguard the future: be charged with faith and hope, but take heed that your hearts be not overcharged with cares of this life! That is it. Be not overcharged, worritting, fretful, full of dismal forebodings: The question then is are we like that? Yes. All classes of people are like that; some of the very best are full of anxieties that do no good. They are anxious about things that man can never be satisfied about. There are men and women always anxious about the state of the world, nay, sometimes it is the "universe," they worry about. They are anxious as to the state of China in a hundred years after this: they are worried over the cities in which there are no missionaries. They are exercised about the state of Europe after the war, and what is going to happen. And so it is in daily life. There are people who worry about their health; they are always consulting doctors and medical columns in the papers. There is the same overcharging of the heart in business: men are anxious as to what a certain crop will be next year. All sound reason is on the side of Jesus. Let us then learn first the folly of it. Perhaps the prime reason why being overcharged is wrong is that it does no good. O that we could learn this! It does no good. Worry as you like about the future religious condition of the world, the future state of China, it does not help matters one bit. You are not responsible

for that. You can only do what you can. If you are a missionary you have only one tongue and two feet. Do what you can where you are and leave the rest to God. You can effect nothing, worry as you please. It is so foolish to overcharge your heart with cares. Jesus knew that there were millions of people he could not preach to. Paul passed through scores of cities he could not preach in. But Jesus and his great Apostle did what they could and left the rest. There were fields "white unto the harvest" they could not reap. They did what then could and left them.

Again, notice that there is always ruin and destruction when anything is overcharged. The engine breaks down. The horse breaks down. It is wonderful how searching the Gospel is. We have all kinds of fine names for this over-anxiety. It is wonderful how we can deceive ourselves. We say we break down because our nerves are more "highly strung" than men's were in olden times. I have had it said to me several times "You are not so highly strung as I am." It may be so, but I believe Jesus Christ would say nothing about nerves: as a fact he never mentioned them. I believe that His criticism of us would be much more drastic: He would diagnose our case as unbelief. As a matter of fact He did once surprise a man who wanted Him to settle a dispute about an inheritance. He diagnosed his case as covetousness. Such is the lightning flash that His pure light casts into the dark den of our sins. The man himself thought he was a sad case of injured innocence, but being overcharged with care, Jesus calls unbelief in God. It ends in ruin to the soul.

Surely we can see the effect of this anxiety in the life of to-day. I see a statement by a medical expert, that while what we may call ordinary diseases are diminishing, the more general diseases such as nerve troubles are increasing. Why is it? Surely because we to-day are disobeying our Lord by being overcharged with care. We are anxious about the world, about this, that and the other, beyond the breaking point, which is a sin, and is useless too. Again, all kinds of evil spring up from this state of mind. The soul loses its peace: it gets filled with morbid fancies: we see lions in the path when there are none. I once went to a mesmerist entertainment, and saw a man go on the platform, and soon he was thrown into deadly fear when a walking stick was flourished over him. He thought it was a sword. That is just the way with us, if we give way to this spirit: we are always taking sticks for sharp swords. How often that has happened in the history of the church.

I am old enough to remember some great scares in the church when some scientific discovery has filled people with alarm for the ark of the covenant: and yet, that very discovery has proved itself the best thing that could ever have happened. What then is the remedy? What is the attitude we are to hold towards the uncertainties and problems of life? We are to be like Christ, to have faith in God, to do His will, to do all we can, and leave the rest. "But watch ye at every season, making supplication, that ye may prevail to escape these things that come to pass and to stand before the Son of Man."

We are commencing a new untried year: a year that may hold untold surprises for all the world, in politics, in the church, and in our lives. Trust in God. Worry as you like, you cannot forecast anything. Do God's will humbly and honestly and faithfully where you are. That is all you can do, and leave the rest to God. "Life is too short for mean anxieties" said that Great-heart, Charles Kingsley. "Take heed to yourselves lest haply your hearts be overcharged with cares of this life."

DISASTROUS FIRE IN HANKOW ROAD

TWO FOREIGNERS INJURED.

The members of the Shanghai Fire Brigade had a busy New Year, receiving no fewer than three calls during the week-end. The first one was to a fire at No. 9 Hankow Road, which proved to be most disastrous, involving considerable losses of property and injury to two firemen. The call was received about half-past five on New Year's morning, and the brigade, consisting of units from all stations under Acting Chief Officer Fenton, turned out with commendable promptitude.

It was at once seen that the brigade had a hard task before them, for the fire had obtained a good hold, and the upper portion of the building was already in flames. The fire as at first ascertained by the firemen was between the roof and the upper floor of the top story, the position rendering the work of the brigade extremely dangerous.

Alarm Given by a Cat.

The fire was first noticed by Mrs. MacIntosh, who resided on the top storey. Shortly after five o'clock she heard her cat, which was in the habit of entering her room every morning, pawing at the knob of her bedroom door and mewing. She at once got out of bed, and found that the room was full of smoke. She called Captain MacIntosh, and then went to the telephone to call the Fire Brigade, and they arrived shortly afterwards. In the meantime,

Captain MacIntosh searched his flat in order to see where the fire had broken out. He entered the kitchen, which was also full of smoke, and saw that part of the roof was burning. He at first thought that this was the full extent of the fire, but on the firemen entering the premises and getting to work, it was found that the space between the ceiling and the roof was practically a furnace. As to where the fire originated, it is impossible to say at present. No flames were seen at the bottom portion of the kitchen, and the fact that the wooden shutters and part of the verandah are still intact points to the fact that the fire could hardly have begun in the kitchen. Before the arrival of the brigade, Mrs. MacIntosh roused all the other inmates of the house, and it is due to her efforts in this way that no loss of life has to be recorded.

Fireman Badly Hurt.

The flames quickly spread, and the work of the firemen was considerably hampered by the dense volumes of smoke which poured into the various rooms. The attempts to check the fire from the inside of the building were attended with enormous risk, not only on account of the immense heat, but owing to the falling of the ceilings. It was during the collapse of one of the floors that Mr. A. R. Moores was injured. He, with several other firemen, were at work in one of the rooms, when he was struck by a falling beam, and injured about the neck and spine. The injuries were extremely painful, and Mr. Moores was taken to the General Hospital. Mr. H. J. Blatchford of the Shanghai Tramways, sustained severe burns on the hands, and he was sent to the Victoria Nursing Home for treatment.

Fortunately, there was no panic on the part of the inmates of the house, which was let out in flats. Upon the alarm being raised, they hurriedly dressed and endeavoured to save as much of their property as possible, but the rapidity with which the flames spread left little time for much to be taken out. As a consequence, a considerable amount of property was destroyed, scarcely anybody rescuing their belongings. The fire raged fiercely for three hours, by which time the upper portion of the building was completely gutted. The ground, first and second floors were damaged by water, the efforts of the brigade in confining the flames to the upstairs premises meeting with success. The firemen were kept on the premises all through the day, playing water on the burning mass, and it was not until well into the evening that they left.

The loss is estimated at something like Tls. 100,000. The insurance on the buildings and contents amounts to about Tls. 40,000.

the buildings being insured for Tls. 80,000.

The cat, which undoubtedly saved the lives of some of the inmates, was rescued, the animal jumping on to the roof of a neighbouring godown.

Other Fires.

The second outbreak occurred on Saturday morning at a house in Szechuen Road. The alarm was given about four o'clock, and the premises in which the fire originated were gutted.

On Sunday morning, at a little after three o'clock, the brigade received the third call, the fire on this occasion being in Seward Road. One house was destroyed, the adjoining house being partially damaged. No loss of life has to be recorded.

The brigade did good work at all the three fires, particularly at the one in Hankow Road. Several of the neighbouring buildings were in danger, but the fire was confined to a particular area, and it was impossible to save the premises in which it was first discovered.

AMERICAN WOMAN'S CLUB.

AMERICAN COMPOSERS OF SECULAR MUSIC.

A very enjoyable meeting of the American Woman's Club was held in the banquet hall of the Palace Hotel on Tuesday afternoon, and was very largely attended. The afternoon was spent with American composers of secular music, and the programme consisted of twelve numbers. All of these, with the exception of MacDowell's Concerto for piano, in D minor (first movement) were vocal, and illustrated the works of the principal American composers. The concerto was given by Mrs. Boughton and Mrs. Maitland, and was highly appreciated.

The composers whose works figured on the programme were: Stephen Collins Foster (1826-1864), G. W. Chadwick (1854), Charles Fonteyn Manney (1872), Harriet Ware (1868), Daniel Protheroe, George E. Castelling, Edw. MacDowell (1861-1908), E. Nevin (1862-1901), Charles Wakefield Cadman, Neidlinger, Arthur Foote (1853), William Arms Fisher, Carrie Jacobs Bond (1867), and Arthur Dunham. Solos were given by Mrs. Rodger, Mrs. Connell, Mr. Fitch and Mr. Boughton, while the ladies' glee club also contributed. All the items were warmly received, and the next similar afternoons, when sacred and operatic subjects will be dealt with, are eagerly looked forward to.

An interesting review of American composers was given by

Mrs. Cabeldu, who said it was only the other day that Tennyson's allusion to "the early pipe of half-awakened birds" would have served famously to describe the state of affairs in the uncleared forests of American music. Yesterday, it had been no slander to say that American music had a purely algebraic value. But that was yesterday: this is to-day. The deliberate Portuguese said: "Patience, to-morrow is another day," and American music had large hopes of its "Manana." But meanwhile, they had also a to-day that was neither without its comforts nor empty of pride. To-day, the American composer did not need to be isolated, like a pest, to a ward of his own. His music was seen on almost every programme, mingling with the classics and European standards in democratic good-fellowship. The American march and dance tune had swept the world as no others of the day, and the more elaborate forms of oratorios, cantata and sonata and songs were by no means infrequent in London, Berlin, Munich, Paris and Florence.

Mrs. Cabeldu then gave brief sketches of the more well-known composers of secular music, and in speaking of folk-songs, said the nearest approach to folk-music in the United States was that played and sung by the negroes in the south. Before the Civil War brought freedom to the slaves, the ability to read was very rare amongst those held in bondage. Indeed, in many of the States that authorized slavery, education of a slave was a misdemeanour. The tunes to which they danced and to which they sang their songs and hymns were, therefore, traditional. The origin of some of the tunes was held on these grounds to be African.

AN UNAUTHORIZED APPEAL COURT.

A CHINESE LAWYER'S EXPLANATION.

A case in which considerable interest was taken was mentioned at the Mixed Court on December 31. It referred to the so-called Chinese Court of Appeal which has been functioning at the Bureau of Foreign Affairs in Bubbling Well Road, and arose out of the action taken by Mr. Grant Jones and Magistrate Kuan with regard to an appeal which had been heard from a case previously before the Mixed Court.

At the beginning of the Court proceedings, Mr. Grant Jones asked if the two Chinese lawyers, who had been called upon to explain why they attended the so-called Court of Appeal, were

present. Only one of the lawyers, Sung Shih-hsiang, appeared, and it was stated that the other, Mr. Dih Liang-sun, had gone to Soochow.

Mr. Sung made a lengthy statement, during the course of which he said that on December 19 the Taoyin's yamén gave notice to the respondent (for whom he was acting), that an appeal would be heard. Three Chinese lawyers appeared at the yamén on December 24. The previous judgement, given in the Mixed Court on July 8, went in favour of his client, who was the plaintiff, the defendant being granted leave to appeal on depositing \$1,000. Mr. Sung did not think he had committed any offence against the jurisdiction of the Mixed Court. He had no information whatever of the Court at the yamén until he saw a notice in the Chinese press, and only went after being instructed by his client Dzung Wo-wo. The Court was on the same lines as the Mixed Court. He learned that the Mixed Court records had been forwarded to the Taoyin's yamén, so he concluded that the newly-constituted Court had been recognized by the Consular Body. He attended the Court at the yamén in order to ask that a decision be given according to law, and judgement was given upholding the previous one in the Mixed Court. He was not the person first to make a move regarding the appeal. It was reported in the Chinese Press that the three Chinese lawyers, Dih Liang-sung, Sah Hyuin-yi and himself had acted in collusion in constituting this Court of Appeal at the Taoyin's yamén, but he wished it to be known to the Mixed Court that such was not the case. Notification was posted on December 19, and the Court was opened on December 21. He submitted that these facts proved his innocence of any alleged collusion in this matter. He, while acting for respondent in the appeal court, had asked for the Mixed Court judgement to be confirmed. Whether recognition had been shown the appeal court by the Diplomatic Body was not a matter which concerned himself. As he was acting for the respondent and not for the appellant, he was not the moving spirit in the appeal. As to any breach of Mixed Court rules or regulations, Mr. Sung asked that counsel for the appellant should be questioned.

The Assessor: The Court will do that; you need not worry about it.

Mr. Sung continued that he was at first doubtful regarding the Chinese Court, and he wrote to the authorities and received a reply. The responsibility regarding the recognition of the Court rested with the Taoyin. He had never intended overthrowing any judgement given by the Mixed Court, but he considered that the appellant had done so. When he acted for the res-

pondent, he did so on the principle which obtained in all countries, that of counsel protecting his client, and he thought a clear line must be drawn between individual rights and public rights, which the question at issue touched upon.

The Assessor's Remarks.

At the conclusion of Mr. Sung's statement, Mr. Grant Jones said:—We are very glad to have heard this explanation from Mr. Sung, and as far it goes, it appears to be entirely satisfactory. The only point on which I offer criticism is that Mr. Sung must have known that the negotiations for the rendition of this Court had not been completed, and therefore it must have followed, in the mind of every reasonable man, that a Court constituted as this Court in the yamén was not a properly constituted Court. Courts of law are not to be constituted at the will of any individual; they are constituted as the result of action by the State, and in a place like Shanghai they are only instituted after negotiations between the concerned. However, we are willing to believe that Mr. Sung is more sinned against than sinning, and no further notice will be taken of his action in this case. But Mr. Sung must clearly understand that the Court which is now functioning in the Bubbling Well Road is not a properly constituted Court. It may possibly result—I do not know—that a Court very similar to that Court may be constituted in the near future. It may be constituted to-morrow, it may be constituted months hence. The fact remains that to-day that Court has no rights or powers whatever. Therefore it behoves Mr. Sung as a practitioner of this Court to have nothing whatever to do with the Court in Bubbling Well until it has been put on a proper basis. Its orders, judgements and decrees are waste paper, and any further appearance on behalf of counsel practising in this Court will entail suspension.

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Mr. White-Cooper, as senior member of the Bar present in Court, said he desired to express, on behalf of his colleagues and himself, an appreciation of the action taken by the Mixed Court in maintaining the dignity of the Court and in checking any encroachment upon the rights and privileges of the people of this Settlement.

With regard to the other lawyer, Dih Liang-sun, Mr. Grant Jones said he was to be served with a notice ordering him to appear before the Mixed Court within seven days. If he failed to appear in that time, he would be suspended.

CORRUPTION AT ELECTIONS.

A SERIOUS BLOW TO PARTY CANVASSING.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Peking, Dec. 30.

The Censors have registered a protest against political parties which is likely to have a far-reaching effect upon the future of these organizations. In a memorial to the President they have bluntly set it down that no member of a political party should be permitted to become a member of the forthcoming Parliament, and, what is more worthy of note, the President has expressed his agreement with their views, and has, in a Mandate to-day, issued instructions accordingly.

The Censors, of course, held the recent Parliament up as the horrible example. All members of that Parliament were, they pointed out, members of one party or another. There were among them men who abused their literary art, who made false declamations, and employed money, arms and ammunition to wreck havoc in the country. Some of the members were of a low class who secured election by taking advantage of the election officials; and the result was that the Parliament became the laughing stock of the world.

In the opinion of the Censors the purpose of a party is to study politics, and the operations of a party should be within the limits of the law. Instead of that the parties use their collective strength to influence elections and usurp power. To make a fundamental reform it must be insisted upon that no members of the new Parliament shall be party men, and the Censors asked the President to issue a Mandate to that effect. He did. He published the petition of the Censors and judged their advice to be reasonable, at the same time issuing instructions to the Preparation Bureau of the Lifayuan and to Provincial Officials "to take note of the petition so that the elections may be carried out properly."



The Government Party.

So another blow has been struck at overt organized effort on the part of the politicians. What the Chinputang will have to say to this will be interesting to hear. They are Government supporters, and have already sent out lecturers to persuade the electors to vote for members of their party. Altogether they were to have despatched twenty-four speakers. It now remains to be seen whether this Mandate is intended for the Chinputang as well as other organizations; if it is, and the President can enforce the scheme, the death-knell will be sounded of those parties which have been operating in the broad light of day, and the chances are that they will be converted into secret organizations as was the case in the days before the glorious Republic came to bring the boon of liberty, equality, and fraternity.

NEW PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION LAW.**ROUNDING OFF YUAN'S POWERS.**

From Our Own Correspondent.

Peking, Dec. 30.

At last we have the law for the election of the President of the Republic of China. Sometime ago we were given the Constitutional Compact, and are promised at no distant date the draft of the permanent Constitution. When the gigantic struggle with these great instruments is over no doubt we will be ushered upon a path of progress and peace, and China will come into her own. At present on one has time for thoughts of progress, and therefore China struggles along as best she may.

The recently issued Constitutional Compact was regarded by supporters of the President as a document giving him merely sufficient power to assert himself in case of need, and the law for the election of the President must, therefore,

be regarded as purely complementary. It rounds up the powers of the President, as it were, and enables him to prevent any foolish combination from springing any surprise upon himself or the country. In short, it finally places full control of affairs in his hands.

Eligible Candidates.

Ostensibly any Chinese who is forty years of age, who enjoys full public rights, and has lived in the country for upwards of twenty years, will be eligible for election as President. This completely cuts out Sun Yat-sen, or any other foreign educated aspirant to the position, or rather retards them in fulfilment of their ambitions, if such lie in the direction of the Presidential Palace.

Should that not be sufficient to bar them, then Article 3 will finally and decisively defeat them, or anyone else the present occupant of the chair may not like. It provides that at each election the President, representing the people, shall nominate three candidates for the Presidency, their names to be written by the President on a golden plate which is to be kept locked up in a golden casket, which in turn is to be secured in stone archives, the keys to which are to be kept by the President, the Secretary of State, and the Chairman of the State Council.

When an Election Takes Place.

And, still, if the powers thus given the sitting President are not enough to check an undesirable successor from endeavouring to secure office when the Presidential ten years are up—for the term is fixed at ten years—then the State Council may extend the term of the President and thereby render an election unnecessary.

If an election takes place, however, a committee of ten is to be appointed to open the golden casket and take out the three names inscribed by the President. They will then be submitted by the President to an Electoral College

consisting of fifty members of the State Council and fifty members of the Lifayuan, and the candidate who secures two-thirds of the votes cast shall be deemed elected. If the required two-thirds are not secured then the two candidates with the largest numbers of votes will again be submitted to ballot, and the one securing a majority will be declared President. The President himself is eligible for re-election and may be voted for at the same time as the three candidates nominated by him. The oath the President is to take is simple. It is: "I swear that I will honestly adhere to the Constitution and faithfully perform my duties as the President of this Republic."

The Virtue of the New Law.

The term of the Vice-President will also be ten years, and the President also has been accorded the right to make three nominations for the position.

Everything is thus simplified. There will be no scenes such as marked the last election, when any member of the Parliament could vote for anyone he desired, there need be no newspaper wrangles as to the merits of candidates, for if the President refrains from mentioning the names he has inscribed on the golden plate and locked up in the golden casket, no one will know who the candidates are until the time of election arrives.

THE SALT REVENUE.**SIR RICHARD DANE'S ABLE WORK.**

In spite of the fact that the unexpected has often happened in China, few were prepared for the real advance in finance which has taken place during a period when, on account of war, trade has been paralyzed. Although before the war, there was less desire for a foreign loan than there was only a year ago, monetary help in the shape of a loan was nevertheless

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considered necessary. The war upset all calculations, and all at once China has had to look to herself for help. The saner attitude of the provinces, the gradual reduction of the circulation of paper money, good crops, and a better control from Peking have all helped her to do this successfully.

The fear that the Government would not be able to meet its foreign liabilities, has now practically disappeared. There has been an unexpected increase in the salt revenue. The estimate of \$35,000,000 surplus, made early this year, is bound to be exceeded; and the increase in this revenue from several provinces is surprising. The increase is not due to an advance in the tax. What has taken place is that sums which never reached the Central authorities in former times are now being received. Practically all the credit for this is due to Sir Richard Dane, who has been working tirelessly against great odds. By dint of persuasiveness and tact, he has been able to convince the provincial authorities that by turning over a large revenue to Peking they were helping their own country. He has taken the line of least resistance, and has never had to force any place to pay up. He took at first what he could get gradually ascertaining how much could be obtained. Thus, he has made the provincial authorities themselves send in increased amounts month after month. The total revenue for the year is likely to be very nearly as large as that of the Customs; and Sir Richard Dane hopes even to beat the Customs in the near future. As the tax is not pressing heavily on the people, and as without any widespread central organization for collection its yield is already large, there is good reason to think that his hope will be realized.

The great difficulty in the way of properly systematizing the revenue is the currency. The tax accounts are kept in dollars, but collected in all sorts of currencies. Consequently, much is lost through exchange; and if this loss could be obviated the salt revenue returns would be a good deal larger.

CHINESE CUSTOMS AT TSINGTAO.

JAPANESE DEMANDS FOR CONTROL OF THE SERVICE.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Peking, Jan. 2.

On December 22 I telegraphed that no settlement had yet been reached with regard to the appointment of a Customs Commissioner and staff at Tsingtao.

Japan was then insisting upon what she claimed to be her right to appoint to the Maritime Customs a number of Japanese not connected with the Chinese service. The unprecedented nature of this demand, coupled with the firmness with which the Japanese Government was pressing it, caused considerable anxiety in Chinese official circles, and in several directions influence was brought to bear upon the Japanese to moderate their claims sufficiently to prevent any dislocation of the Customs' administrative machinery.

To some extent the Japanese exhibited a tendency to conform with the wishes of the Chinese, and for a time it looked as if an amicable settlement would be reached. But it is regrettable to state that, at this date, an adjustment is as far from sight as ever. Certainly the Japanese ultimately acquiesced in the proposal of the Chinese Government that Mr. Tachibana, the Customs Commissioner at Tairen, should be the Commissioner at Tsingtao. But, while this was done with the object of assisting China to save her face in one direction, demands were added which, if accepted, would compel her to lose more than face in another.

Japan presented a proposal, in short, that the Chinese Government should appoint to the Customs service a total of forty-three Japanese, and suggested a method of promotion calculated by the Chinese seriously to imperil the whole status of the service. That is the situation to-day, and, if the feeling manifested by the Chinese can be taken as a criterion, much negotiation will have to be carried on before a satisfactory settlement can be reached.

In foreign circles it is felt that Japan will not insist upon China following a course likely to jeopardize the existing organization of the Customs service; and it is generally believed that the demands have been made with a view to modification after negotiation.

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FOREIGN CARGOES AT TSINGTAO.

IMPORTANT JAPANESE REGULATION.

We have received from the Japanese Consul-General the following translation of the Regulation touching the goods and cargoes owned by foreigners and stored at Tsingtao. This regulation was published on December 22 last. It does not, of course, apply to Germans and Austro-Hungarians.

1. Goods and cargoes shall be taken out by the end of March, 1915.

2. Owners wishing to take delivery of goods must present an application directly to the Tsingtao Wharf Bureau, clearly stating the marks, number and names of goods, number or quantity of packages, destination, port of departure, the way of transportation, names and nationalities of ships on which the cargoes were transported, names of shippers and any other items necessary for proving ownership of the applicant.

The bills of lading or the receipts issued by the German Wharf Office shall also be presented.

If the applicants are not able to present the B/L or receipt above-mentioned, for any unavoidable and reasonable cause, they shall prove by other means their ownership and have to deposit cash or any other bond which the Wharf Bureau deems suitable, just in such an amount as to cover the value of the goods.

Owners wishing to have the delivery of cargoes and goods transported to Tsingtao on board ship are also obliged to have the B/L certified by shipping agencies to the effect that freight was actually paid.

If, afterwards, no dispute occurs, the cash or bond deposited will be handed back at the request of the applicant after June 1, 1915.

In case applicants want to have the delivery of their goods, stored in the warehouse or compound which was leased from the German Wharf Office, they shall present an application clearly stating marks, numbers and names of the goods, as well as the number or quantity of packages, and the name and whereabouts of the warehouse or compound where goods are stored. They must also present the deed or any other document of lease of the warehouse or compound.

On the applications above-mentioned the applicant shall write his address and sign.

3. Those who have been permitted to take out their goods have to pay storage and fee to the Wharf Bureau, the list of which is attached to this regulation.

4. In case no application is made, the Wharf Bureau will keep the cargoes and goods at the expense and risk of the owner, and will pub-

lish the marks, numbers and quantity of the packages in the Official Gazette published at Tokio.

5. Those who wish to take out the above-mentioned goods shall take the same procedure mentioned in Art. 2 and, moreover, must pay the whole expenses caused on the goods and storage plus five times the fee.

6. If, by the end of May, 1915, no application is made, the goods and cargoes shall be confiscated by the Government.

7. In the case of goods perishable or dangerous, the Wharf Bureau will dispose of them by auction. The proceeds thus gained will be kept by the Bureau till applied for.

8. Storage is to be calculated from the day when the regulation has become operative.

9. This regulation shall be in force from December 28, 1914.

SHANGHAI MERCHANTS' VIEWS ON THE NEW RULES.

Comment among Shanghai merchants on the official list of regulations which are to govern the removal of foreign cargo lying at Tsingtao seems on the whole to be favourable, though it is pointed out that two or three of the clauses appear somewhat vague, and further developments must be awaited before their interpretation can be clearly seen.

"As far as can be seen," a business man directly interested observed to one of our representatives, "the regulations are reasonable, and ought not to give much difficulty, if properly carried out. At present the cargo at Tsingtao is completely mixed up, and the first step must be to separate the various consignments. Then the proper owner must be found, and naturally full proofs of any claim put forward will be asked for. It is not quite clear what documents are actually required, but from this, the clearing of the cargo should proceed without much difficulty."

Some further regulations, not included in the list which we published yesterday, obviously have a political bearing; such, for example as the conditions that applications for cargo must be made in Japanese, and that payments must be made in silver yen, their effect being to establish the Japanese currency, make the use of the Japanese language general, and give employment to as many Japanese as possible. But such regulations, apart from their political aspect, would not necessarily interfere with business relations with regard to cargo in question.

Postal Irregularities.

In the course of the conversation, one matter was referred to which warrants publicity, although not directly connected with the question of cargo regulations. It was pointed out that great difficulty

was being experienced with regard to communication with the firm's representative now at Tsingtao. The only way in which the representative at Tsingtao has been able to get letters away to Shanghai has been by taking them himself on horseback for some distance from Tsingtao and posting at an office in the interior. We are unable to say whether present conditions hinder or obstruct a proper postal system, but, judging from this instance, postal facilities are either scant or non-existent.

Our representative was further assured that although letters and other documents had been posted to Tsingtao almost on every alternate day, only one packet had reached its destination since the fall of Tsingtao. Further, it was asserted that telegrams despatched from Shanghai have gone astray after Tsinanfu and have not been delivered. No doubt these are matters which will receive attention in the proper quarter.

Another business man interviewed on the subject expressed the opinion that the regulations appeared to be reasonable. "Some such regulations were absolutely necessary," he observed. "There may be some difficulty in producing the bills of lading. Most of them have been sent home through the banks, but it may be possible to get them back through London, if they have not been sent on to Germany. The cargo apparently is all heaped up, and great care need to be exercised in seeing that it reaches the proper owner."

In general, the opinion seemed to prevail that the regulations are not of an unexpected character, but full information as to their working is not yet to hand.

SUPERSTITIONS OF DARK SHANSI.

WORSHIP OF ENAKES AND SAGES.

From a Correspondent.

Taihuhsien, Dec. 29.

Dwellers in the more enlightened parts of China would find it difficult to understand the degree of superstition prevailing in these interior districts. This district is one of the richest in Shansi, and at the same time one of the darkest and most degraded, as the following will show. About May 1 this year a little green snake was found in the west suburb of this city. Having made his appearance conveniently near the wall of a temple, a shrine was set up under the wall and the superstitious began to burn incense and worship. In some places the ridicule of the thoughtful or the mandate of the officials would have put an early stop to any such thing. In this case, however, this degrading worship has continued right up

to the present time, and the temple wall above the shrine has been covered with hundreds of red cloth or paper testimonials, the offerings of grateful (or hopeful) worshippers. All this is directly opposite, and within two hundred yards of, the west gate of the city.

A Forest of Tablets.

More recently an event has taken place that has caused quite a stir in the district. Early this year a man named Men Chung, a chu jen and a houpu chihhsien of the old régime, was appointed master of sacrifices for this district. A few weeks ago he collected a sum of over one hundred taels from the rich families of the district. With this sum he prepared a procession that marched through the streets of the city on Sunday, December 20. At the head of the procession were bands of musicians. Following them came, in order, men bearing Republican flags, tables with pigs, sheep, wine, and the other elements of sacrificial offerings, and tables bearing a number of the little houses in which the Chinese place the tablets of deceased worthies. In these "tablet halls" the master of sacrifices had placed a large number of tablets bearing the names of ancient sages from the Chou dynasty on down to the present time. Further than that, he had prepared tablets for the deceased scholars and office-holders of this district, for a period of several hundred years, and without reference to the character of the deceased, whether good, bad, or indifferent. Following this "forest" of tablets marched the gentry of the district, some of the leading business men, and, of course, the usual rabble from the streets.

Imperial Powers.

The destination of this procession was a small temple known as the Chungi Hsiaotissu, located near the Confucian temple of the city. This small temple is the repository of the tablets of the wise and virtuous, but for several hundred years its doors had not been opened to receive any additions. Entering this temple, the sacrificial offerings were placed on the altar. The master of ceremonies as high priest performed the "three kneelings and nine prostrations" before the tablets, while eight hsiuts'ai of the district ranged themselves alongside as attendant priests. The local official, a Kiangsu man, was "prevailed upon" to perform an act of obeisance, but it is understood that his act of worship was rather more in harmony with republican ideals.

This incident has created quite a stir throughout the district, the particularly rousing part of it appearing to be that Meng Chung should have arrogated to himself practically imperial powers and should have made such a wholesale and indiscriminate addition to the local pantheon.

EXPLORERS IN FAR KANSU.

STRANGE ADVENTURES OF YOUNG AMERICAN.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Sining, Dec. 10.

Dr. Aurel Stein is at present in the Kanchow district, northwest Kansu. When in the mountains south of Kanchow he fell off his horse and bruised his leg very badly so that he had to be carried back to Kanchow in a mule litter. On his way back he met Rodney Gilbert, a young American just returning from the Sinkiang Province, who went back to Kanchow with him and remained a few days till he was feeling much better.

It is reported that he has found traces of another great wall running to the north-west and thinks that it is a continuation of Tsin Shu-huang's Great Wall, but this cannot be, for there is a large tablet at the west end of Tsin Shu-huang's Great Wall which finishes on the edge of a precipice, giving an account of the finish (see W. E. Geil's Great Wall.)

It will be interesting to know that there is still another Great Wall, but surely there would be some record of it and Marco Polo makes no mention of it. It possibly might be a branch like the long branch that runs at right angles from the Great Wall two days south-east of Liangchow, striking over five mountain ridges, piercing the whole west of Sining and losing itself in the mountains south as Sining. There are other smaller branches in different parts of north and west Kansu.

Who is Rodney Gilbert?

He is a young American from the State of Pennsylvania, age about twenty-six. By profession a newspaper reporter, of a roving turn of mind, yet with the view of obtaining a wider knowledge, he has spent a few months in Germany, also a few months in Mexico, where he was held up prisoner by the Federalists. The Far East having its attractions, he made his way to Shanghai, where a splendid opportunity opened out before him to see the inland provinces of China, at no outlay personally, by acting as agent for a patent medicine. After visiting several central provinces he was appointed to visit the north-west provinces and finished his engagement with the firm when he had reached the northwest boundary of China. From thence at his own expense he made his way into the far Sinkiang Province and had hoped to make his way westward as far as Constantinople, but was disappointed in his object by being robbed on the way.

In Kedar's Tents.

Turning back from Tihuafo the capital, he roamed about the mountains north of Hanei, dwelling in the tents and houses of the people, learning the Turki dialect and manners and customs of the people. Returning from Hanei down the highway as far as Kanchow, he then struck off down the mountain tracks through regions inhabited by Tibetans and Mongols, back to Sining. Together we visited the Kokonor, camping out at the sea side, protected from the wild Chembra tribe of Tibetans by a special escort from the Commissioner of the Kokonor. Now he is at the little market town of Lushari, which lies sung in the valley, at the foot of the mountain on the slopes of which is built the famous Lamasery of Kumbum, the birthplace of Tsong Ka-ba, the Reformer of Buddhism, in the 15th century. There he hopes to find a Mongol lama who will be able to teach him Mongolian. He is, however, experiencing much difficulty, as most of the Lamas know Tibetan, but little of their own written language.

The experience he has gained by his visit to the far north-west among the Turks and Mongols as well as a wide knowledge of the whole of this interesting region and the great road north from Hankow with all the places of unbounded interest by the way, will enable him to speak and write with authority when the nations of the West long for a wider knowledge of these little known regions.

General Cheo with a party of eighty horse soldiers and a large caravan of camels has left here for Jyekundo to settle a boundary question over which there has been a good deal of fighting among the tribes. The southern part is under the control of the Szechuan Tutch and the northern under the Commissioner of Sining. It has been rumoured for months that fighting would take place to recover the boundary lost to the north, but wiser counsel has prevailed and a peaceful settlement is expected. The party travel through the Golok country, it being the shortest route. Being well armed the Goloks, who are inveterate robbers, will fight shy about attacking them. Last year the Goloks approached the Commissioner of the Kokonor with the hope of being taken under the wing of the new Government, so that they may bring their own merchandise to the border towns to trade, but their offer of submission has not been accepted. They live in the mountain fastnesses and pounce upon all caravans that are not sufficiently protected, so that Government probably realize that any benefits derived by their submission would not cover the outlay on the upkeep of the large military force needed to keep them in check.

Harvest, Opium and Coinage.

The wheat crop has been a partial failure. The prices have gone up again owing to the extensive opium crop last year and the failure this year. Many of the poor people are finding it very difficult to live. The country places abound with thieves.

No opium has been grown this year, but there is still a large quantity in the hands of individuals who are making huge profits. In another year these surplus stocks will be used up and none will be sorry.

Twenty-four years ago silver and copper coins were in circulation in the province of Anhui. The copper coins have just reached us here, and were being circulated freely when the yamens refused to have their taxes paid by them, so the farmers refused to use them and now there is a deadlock. The cash is 1,250 to a tael, whereas merchants are willing to give 1,600 for the tael in copper coins. The market has been flooded with them too quickly.

A Camel-Drivers' Quarrel.

What an enormous waste of time, and innumerable quarrels are caused by the stupidity of "John Chinaman" on the road. For the sake of a minute or two's advantage he will cause hours of delay. Two long caravans of camels approached each other from opposite directions in the early hours of the morning in a narrow gorge a few miles from this city. According to custom the camel drivers yell out as they enter the narrow defile that warning may be given. The first caravan had got nearly through when the second caravan entered the defile, unheeding the warning. Then came a deadlock, followed by angry words, followed by blows, one blow unfortunately proved fatal, the man dying on the roadside. As both the culprit and victim were strangers to the district, and a law case would be a costly item for the camel owners, an arrangement was made to pay silver to the deceased's relatives.

A Tragic Gamble.

Soldiers are billeted in several inns and gambling goes on continually. A young horse-soldier, a native of Honan, was tempted to join in, lost his money and his horse, and disappeared in the night from their midst.

The following morning a man was drawing water from a well near by when he detected a redness in the water. The head men of the district were sent for, an examination made and the body of the young soldier was dragged out. The same day, the magistrate had a tent erected near the well where the body was, and an inquest was held, but there were no other wounds on the body but those caused by the fall, so a verdict of death

by suicide was given. A vast crowd gathered round the tent.

Gambling is a terrible curse. There are gambling dens connected with the Taotai's and General's jamens. The leaders are the chair-bearers. Until these two places are squashed, all proclamations against gambling will prove fruitless.

AT A CHINESE WEDDING.

A STUDY IN UNFAMILIAR WAYS.

From a Correspondent.

Close upon Christmas, in the early evening of an over-clouded day, a passenger for Hankow on one of the river steamers stepped out of the well-lit saloon, and remarked to a passing officer: "A dark night. Whereabouts are we?" To which he replied: "About fourteen miles above Ruined Fort." Not a light was visible on the northern bank. It was hard to distinguish river or land or sky—all was so black. When the passenger thought he heard the distant sound of a gong, and something else which reminded him of bagpipes. "Some joss-pidgin, I suppose, but on a dark night like this! Queer folks, these Chinese!" he said to himself as he turned into dinner.

Now it happens that the writer of this was on the spot, and can explain in detail the cause of that gong-banging. It was a country wedding, which he was called in both to "solemnize" and (from his host's point of view) further to enliven by his presence. But first a word on Chinese marriages in general.

Throughout China, the betrothal is really the legal marriage. It is an indissoluble contract between two families, the one to surrender a daughter at a suitable time, the other, to provide for her maintenance and motherhood. A family contract—for while our social system is mostly upon an individualistic basis, and that of barbarous tribes on a tribal basis, the Chinese social system (like that of India) has remained from of old on the family basis. The two families concerned select the future bride, or accept the future bridegroom, generally (though not always, nowadays) without consulting the young people themselves. The end in view is the good of the contracting families. It is a bond of union between them. It aims at providing an honourable wifehood for a member of the one family, and an honourable perpetuation of the other family.

No Ceremonies Required.

On the whole, the arrangement works fairly well for the young folks in the end—where there has

been no glaring mis-matching. The young couple may never have seen one another before their wedding-day, in which case there can be no history of betrothal bliss followed by marital blister. Each will start with a feeling of sympathy for the other's shyness, and awkward predicament. And this sympathy may grow, as it often does, into a feeling of full comradeship.

Few ceremonies are actually required on the wedding-day, and none legally. The couple are already fixed up "for richer for poorer, for better for worse." But as marriage is, in Chinese, "the great event of life" for the damsel, and an important epoch in the career of the young man, the ceremonies may be as imposing as the means of the bridegroom's family allow. In country parts, the outlay goes mostly into clothes and food—all who bring gifts being entertained at one or more of the feasts that are kept up for three days.

In Real China.

The surroundings in which I found myself that cold December afternoon were as purely Chinese as heart could wish. About two miles inland from the Yangtze bank, beyond a straggling lake, at the upper end of a little street of rural shops, with a rural gap in the centre, making an upper and lower village; in a farm-house-like building of unburnt earthen bricks, though adorned with a white-washed front, and a pair of glazed windows with modern shutters, and two small side-windows with glass and cross-bars, but with floors of good mother-earth. It was in a side room of this mission-building that I awoke from a doze in the afternoon, for I had walked thirty miles the day before, and six more that morning.

The faithful Chinese preacher, a man of that county, had informed me on arrival that I was requested to conduct a marriage that evening "about five li away", and that we were to be there at six. But in that region there are no clocks or watches, and certainly no pedometers! I emerged at four, and he told me it was time to start. "What! two hours for walking five li?" I asked. "Yes, I think we had better start when you have had a cup of tea", he said. And so we did, leaving my coolie in charge of the premises. For the preacher's wife had trudged on earlier, to assist the bride, and had taken her two small boys with her.

Her "daughter-in-law", a child of ten, she had left with a neighbour for the night. Here was a case of infant betrothal, accompanied by adoption. The girl was being brought up by her future parents-in-law, as sister to her future husband. This is a frequent occurrence in China—this wonderful land of compensations; where,

over against the general fact of bride and bridegroom not seeing each other before their wedding-day, there is this contrasting fact of some brides and bridegrooms having seen each other every day of their lives, since early childhood. It reminds one of the far-famed John Gilpin, with something "swinging at each side, to keep the balance true." Only, unlike the immortal Johnny, China certainly manages to "get there" all right.

Gong Beating.

On the road we met a small squad of well-dressed youths, accompanied by two pipers. They were going to fetch and escort the bride. In many cases (perhaps not in this one) they would be confronted by a closed and barred door, which would only be opened by the payment of a mock bribe. This is interesting, as being the other half of the tally to our old custom of throwing the shoe after the couple. Both seem to be survivals of the ancient days when brides were snatched by force (a custom still surviving among some tribes in North India, though now more of a mere ceremony than an actual abduction). The bribing of the gate-keeper in China, and the throwing of the only missile to hand (one's shoe) in the West, are in reality of one and the same import.

One of the young men carried a gong, and to him I addressed myself saying: "I exhort you to duty and diligence. Mind you bang that gong with all your might." He laughingly promised he would. And he kept his word when the time came! Then to my companion I observed: "The President in Peking has done some bold things, and the country is still at peace. But imagine him putting forth a mandate forbidding the banging of gongs! Would not the country-folk rise to a man? Would not China be reduced to anarchy, and the 'slicing of the melon' become inevitable? Truly, there are limits to the national power of endurance, and a wise statesman will heed them." He thought that very funny, but said with a smile: "Ah, there is some doctrine in that!"

The anticipated gong-banging was not heard for more than an hour. The girl must be allowed a few (or many) minutes' grace wherein to weep and lament at parting from her mother. This lamentation is customary, and often very sincere, for the girl is going forth to an entirely unknown chapter of life. Moreover, her wailing (by a pun on the words) is considered to be lucky.

Meanwhile, I was treated nowise as a stranger or foreigner, although this precise hamlet seems never to have had a Western visitor before. A not over-large chamber, with earthen floor and walls of unburnt brick, which had never

known the attentions of a feather broom since they were built. Over my head, just the tiles; and over the front half of the room boards loosely laid on cross-poles formed a rough ceiling; upon these boards were piles of straw—some of the guests were to sleep there to-night; and I was kindly invited to do so, but preferred to return. Everything seasoned with the wood-smoke of the years, for the house had no chimney. The usual yard-square table at the upper end of the room, no scrolls or picture on the walls behind—farmers do not need them. Their pictures are the growing, mellowing crops. A primitive chimney-less paraffin oil lamp on the table, and also two halves of an enormous turnip. Conundrum: What were they there for? Why, of course, to hold the stem of the red candles by and by.

Awaiting the Bride.

Eight of us, all guests, sat at the table and chatted freely, with the indispensable hubble-bubble water-pipe circulating from mouth to mouth (not mine). Cigarettes are unknown in this country side.

The father of the bridegroom, busied about many details, came in and uttered a polite word every now and then. The young bridegroom, about twenty years of age (the average of marriage in China), with a refined face, had a decided "don't know where 'e are" look about him, as he wandered, with flushed cheeks, in and out. Before long there entered an uncle of his, looking quite fine in his soft felt hat (foreign shape, and kept on all the while) and his good clothes; and in this guise I recognized my stalwart boatman of the forenoon. But all things were elevated above everyday life to-night, and he among them.

At length, there fell on our ears the distant wail of the pipers, and the altogether energetic bangs of the gong—indeed, one wondered whether it would arrive uncracked! And now all was flurry within the house. A sort of magazine gun on a pole was fetched from a dark corner, and the tubes filled with "bomb" crackers, and a short string of smaller crackers fixed to a rod—mine host did not need many, to avert evil influences. Once Christians, the Chinese are freed from all superstitious fears. The red candles were duly lit, and stuck into the half-turnips. A doubled *pei-wo* (Chinese wadded bedding) was spread on the floor in front of the table, behind which, facing the door the Chinese preached and I stood.

The Bride's Arrival.

"Coming! coming! the 'new girl' is coming!" shouted the children out on the threshing floor; while the adult neighbours and youths and maidens crowded the two sides of the room, leaving an

open lane to the door. Before which, at last the red chair and lanterns appeared. Then bang-bang and pop-pop went the bombs and crackers; the pipers piped their hardest, and the "diligent" gong-beater fulfilled his "duty."

The red chair was not the gorgeous affair so familiar to residents in Chinese cities, but a brick-red cupboard on sedan poles, draped with red cloth, and with an old tarnished brass mirror fixed to its front.

This mirror (my host had not thought of it) represents one of the most ancient superstitions in the world, and an interesting one withal. In old Chaldea ugly clay images were made of pestilence-demons, that, seeing their own likenesses, those demons should be scared away. Then, in ancient Persia, the science of the day improved upon this. For one particular image might only scare away one type of demon; whereas a mirror would reveal to every demon whatever his own repulsive face. In an old anecdotal Persian work "The Adventures of Hatim Tai" are vivid records of the mirror's efficacy. Demon-scare-demon images are still to be met with, if rarely, in China; and the more frequent mirror-method may be a survival from the days of hoary antiquity when the Chinese, in their original home, borrowed their Yin and Yang theories from the old Persian principles of Darkness and Light.

The music ceased. The two pipers slipped inside the room. And amid a strange silence the bride's chair-poles were brought round so as to project within the door. Then the front cross-bar was removed. The bridegroom went up to the red cupboard doors and inserted a brass key into the old-style padlock, but left the open lock hanging there. He retreated a pace or two, then bowed low three times to the chair and its unseen occupant; turned and came into the centre of the room. At which two dames appeared, well-dressed and wearing silken skirts—only used in these parts on state occasions; opened the doors, and supported the bride's drooping figure (closely veiled in red serge) to the centre of the room, beside the young man. At this stage, in non-Christian weddings, the young couple would k'o-t'ow before an ancestral tablet behind the table. Instead, they stood awhile to hear the reading of an old Psalm of blessing. Then both knelt down in silence for a moment; a marriage blessing was read over them; the Christians present joined (more heartily than tunelessly) in the Doxology, and immediately after the "Amen" of the Benediction, the band struck up—the pipers played. It was simplicity itself, but yet impressive.

The bride was then escorted by the two dames into the bride-chamber, her red veil removed by the bridegroom, and a cup of wine shared equally between them. That chamber was crammed with sightseers, who were now free to make all the remarks they chose, and to keep up the revels known as "rowing (which rhymes with ploughing, and not with sowing) the bridechamber" until midnight.

The Wedding Feast.

But meanwhile the guests were all feasted, from eight o'clock onwards. Three tables for men, eight at each table. And one inside for the women guests. The bride, poor thing, was neither to eat nor speak, being "on view" all the time. The bridegroom wandered about, as though he were an unconsidered *etcetera* to the proceedings. None of the Chinese guests present, except the preacher, had probably ever heard of Temperance Societies, established in more advanced regions of China. Rice-wine, a quarter the strength of samshu, was handed round hot. The cups were of the tiniest order, not holding quite half an ounce, some of the guests drinking not more than an ounce in all, and none to excess. The viands were homely, copious, and fairly refined. No "curios" among them, except a bowl of long sea-weed.

About nine, after many a good wish on both sides, my companion and I started homewards.

HOW THE OLD ORDER CLINGS IN CHIHLI.

EDUCATION PREJUDICES IN VILLAGES.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Tsangchow, Dec. 30.

A recent tour in several of the populous counties of this district provided a welcome opportunity of noting at first hand the efforts, successful and otherwise, that are being made to comply with new Government regulations. It was not to be expected that country folk would take kindly to some new-fangled, "barbarian" notions that challenge the supremacy of time-honoured customs with roots deep in the soil of antiquity.

A Dead Mass of Inertia.

One does not envy in these days the lot of a young official imbued with the spirit of reform, and eager to make a clean sweep of certain flagrant evils that lie across the path of progress. It is not surprising that many succumb in the unequal struggle against crass ignorance, and the universal inertia. After a few imposing proclamations,

to the accompaniment of the authentic thunder, the exasperated and despondent dignitary either retires from the cares of office, or descends, with easy Chinese fatalism to a policy of muddle and make-believe. So long as the district is quiet, and the people contented, it is not difficult either to keep the machinery going, or to present fairly satisfactory returns to inquisitive Boards and peripatetic inspectors.

For instance, in the Hochien district, the government primary schools that came under my notice were poorly organized and inefficiently conducted. In one large market village, there were thirty pupils installed in a temple under a teacher of the old type, who possessed no normal certificate, and who still retained his queue. Needless to say, most of the boys sported their appendages; indeed there is a strong prejudice in this neighbourhood against parting with them. This year the teacher has received a useful grant from the county authorities, but the inspector on his last round intimated that it would be withdrawn on the ground of the offending queues! In which case the school will collapse.

The Good Old Way Best.

To many irate parents modern education, as they have seen it exemplified locally, is a delusion and a snare. It offers no *quid pro quo* for the cherished tails of their off-spring, indeed they would vote unhesitatingly for the preservation of the one, and the abolition of the other. I have seen few of the new primary schools anywhere in the villages that have dared to introduce reasonable hours of study for the rising generation, or acquiesce in a day of rest once a week. These luxurious innovations are for the city, but are anathema to the countryside. The "proper" hours for study, one is told, are from dawn to sunset with the hour or more interval for morning and afternoon meals, and woe betide the teacher with advanced views who advocates, says, an eight hours day, or relaxation from the daily round one day in seven! Public opinion would soon range itself against him, and his ricebowl be jeopardized.

Official Morality.

Though there are some capable and intelligent officers in the police force up and down this region, the men fail when it comes to the old test of private gain *versus* public morality, and they pocket their hush money with alacrity, turning a blind eye to the consequences. In this same Hochien county, in a market village notable as the ancestral home of one of the most powerful Tuluhs, public gaming goes on unblushingly in broad daylight with disastrous results to the youth of the neighbourhood. This in spite of the official proclamations threatening offenders with the utmost severity of the law. The cul-

prits in this case are relatives of the great man, who trade upon their connexion with him, and defy the police to arrest them.

In justice to the high official referred to it must be stated that some time ago when a relative was accused of evil practices before the county magistrate, the General sent an immediate and urgent request to make the punishment fit the crime, and begged the "hsien" to have no regard for the family face.

Guerilla Warfare.

The counties on the Chihli-Shantung border, Yensan and Laoting in particular, on either side of the boundary, are found in rather a "quaky" condition in view of a recrudescence of the banditti who carried on their depredations last winter, and well on into the year with the most brazen effrontery.

Fortunately for the villagers in the affected region, a military official with a taste for guerilla warfare has arisen, who is making things very warm for the robbers. It is to be hoped he will be encouraged, and suitably rewarded. A perennial difficulty lies in the lack of adequate protection for such large tracts of country. Roving bands of clever well-mounted highwaymen who constantly change their rendezvous, dividing the spoil, and dispersing before the dawn, can do an immense amount of damage, and terrorize a whole county unless energetic measures are taken in time.

Forced to Disgorge.

One village I visited near the border had been raided the previous night. A fairly prosperous farmer had been attacked in his own house, hauled out into the courtyard, and by means of lighted tapers dipped in kerosene applied to his bare back, compelled to reveal the family hoard. The villains got clean away with a rich haul, including two valuable mules.

I heard of a praiseworthy attempt on the part of the Laoling official to organize the numerous villages under his jurisdiction for mutual protection against brigandage. The villages in the county have been divided into groups of seven, each group constituting a "yueh." There is a headman for each "yueh," and a police force composed of men drawn from each village, supported from public funds. It should be stated that the old police force established some years ago failed to justify its existence, the villages refusing to support what they regarded as a useless and hopelessly inefficient innovation.

Whether this new move will be more successful is problematical. The wisecracks of the district who see in it only another subtle plan for creating sinecures, and supporting a brood of lazy drones, shrug their shoulders, their wrinkled faces an eloquent study of disapproval as they puff at their meditative pipes

and ruminate on the "good old times."

Village Conservatives.

Educational matters are at a low ebb in the region just referred to. The village fathers will not employ the half-baked, short cut graduates of the government normal school and, so far as your correspondent could gather by careful inquiries, the existing schools differ in no respect from those ill-ventilated, raucous haunts of musty learning that have been the pride of the village in China for countless generations.

However, educational reform is not invariably slighted in the country districts hereabouts. Often in the most unlikely places, one is agreeably surprised to find a promising school, conducted on progressive lines by a bright, wide-awake teacher. The walls are hung with charts and maps, and there is a blackboard covered with figures. Upon the desks lie copies of the National Readers, which must be a constant source of delight, and open up a new world to boys whose first attempts at deciphering the elusive characters were made under the old brain-numbing conditions. To the north of Haifeng district one came across a rather remarkable instance of local rivalry in educational matters. Encouraged by the authorities several wealthy squires in the neighbourhood vied with one another in establishing and equipping modern schools, which were to provide free education for the village children.

But for one, at any rate, of the enthusiasts, the heavy running expenses of his enterprise and the stress of competition have proved too much for his purse, and he has closed the school after a brief inglorious career.

Wanted, a Philanthropist.

There are no public funds available and a splendid set of buildings, thoroughly equipped and up-to-date is standing empty for lack of the requisite public spirit. The other schools are prospering to the manifest chagrin of the competitor who has fallen out of the race for local reputation. It is tragic to thing of so many bright boys returning after such a brief emancipation from the shackles of the dead hand to the old fossilized schools, only temporarily eclipsed by their pretentious but short-lived modern rival. Here is a great chance for a globe-trotting philanthropist to come to the rescue.

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THE NEW MAP OF CHINA.

IN ENGLISH AND CHINESE.

The New Map of China (in English and Chinese), with Index; scale 1-1,676,850, 26,471=1 inch; in seven colours. Far Eastern Geographical Establishment, 6 Kiukiang Road, Shanghai.

After many years of compilation and over a year of actual production, the New Map of China is published to-day. It at once presents an admirable basis for an intelligent and thorough study of the Eighteen Provinces, the lower portions of Manchuria and Mongolia, and Eastern Tibet. It is a carefully designed chart of China Proper which should meet every requirement of the modern map for commercial and educational use, and many congratulations are due to Mr. Edwin J. Dingle and Mr. H. J. Fruin, by whom all rights are reserved, upon the accomplishment of a work of great importance in the present development of this country. Without minimizing the usefulness of other maps of China, it may be said that this is by far the most authoritative and the most practical map of China yet published. The simplicity of arrangement and the thorough legibility are striking characteristics, linked with harmonious colouring and a general appearance of dignity. Although the map, especially in some areas such as the metropolitan province, embraces all the known geographical data, there is no crowding, and each place-mark and name, the drainage and railway systems and many other features are so skilfully worked in that the graceful appearance of the work is not interfered with. This is essential in a good map.

The ground tint of China and those parts of its dependencies shown is a bright buff colour: Burma, Hongkong, Weihaiwei (British possessions) are in the usual red; Tonking and the southern French territory are shown in green; Formosa and Korea in purple; the Tsingtao area is shown in a neutral white. Provincial boundaries, clearly marked in a red line running centrally through distinct divisions of pale blue, bring out each province in bold outline. Probably the most important feature of the geographic plan, however—if we except the excellent system of China's present and prospective railways—is the whole of the productions of the country. These are engraved in the exact areas where the productions are found, and appear in green, in a bold Clarendon type and "No. 3" Chinese type, sufficiently heavy to be seen at a glance, yet so arranged as not to disfigure the plan's effect. Coming to the cities, we find many places now mapped for the first

time in new surveys, especially in the western and central provinces. The place-marks are engraved in different type-faces, so graded as to indicate capitals, fu's, ting's, chow's, hsien's, villages and hamlets. The Post Office spelling is the basis of the romanization.

The names of the capital city of each province, as well as the large provincial titles in both English and Chinese are lithographed in red, the wide Chinese characters, with a black outline round the red being particularly handsome engraving. The "bookish" character of the Chinese throughout the map will be much admired by scholars and sinologists.

In itself this new map forms also a capital and certainly most up-to-date railway map of China. One may start at a point on the trunk lines and allow his imagination to run over projected lines and in progress, lines which have fallen out of time because of the lack of money, branch lines and surveyed routes, until he may get himself to believe that any town in China, although now far removed from an actual railroad, will in time become as accessible to Shanghai as any point in the U.S.A. is accessible to New York.

Reference must also be made to the very capital tables and coloured diagrams shown on the left of the map. The following is a brief list:

i—Aspects of China's railways, giving lengths of all trunk lines, branch lines, lines under construction and surveyed.

ii—Local coast distances: ocean distances from Shanghai to the principal ports in the world: overland distances from Peking.

iii—Aspects of China's trade, showing volume of trade of Chinese ports for three years, with percentages and values carefully worked out.

iv—Aspects of China's population, a well conceived diagram, giving number of persons to the square mile in every province, with full areas. There are also interesting circular plans comparing areas and populations of the world's empires with China.

Interspersing these diagrams are lists of China's minerals, valuable data regarding productions and a good deal that the merchant needs to know about exchange, treaty ports and so forth. One of the tables, which sets out to show how long letters take from Shanghai to pretty well every important town in China, we must take exception to, however. It is a happy idea to include it, and we are not condemning the Far Eastern Geographical Establishment for doing so. It would be more useful if only the Chinese Post Office kept to the time of this official table in interior deliveries!

An Index book accompanies the map. This is arranged so that each

place engraved on the map is given in English with the Chinese characters for it printed alongside so that easy reference may be made. This part of the work, the publication of all the data in both languages is a most commendable feature, and one which has caused the compilers a very great deal of hard work. But the index book is much more than an ordinary index. In it are given the whole of the telegraphically opened places in China, and a well written geographical survey of China by Mr. W. Sheldon Ridge. The traveller in the western provinces will find this book of uncommon usefulness if only for the dozen or so pages of overland routes, with full details as to distances and heights. These are culled from various sources, and form a valuable addition to our knowledge of West China.

BOOK REVIEWS.

A NEW BOOK ABOUT ART.

A pocket edition would be very acceptable, an ideal travel companion, but the volume before us is strictly intended for the library. Its expansive, thrilling pages lie with deceptive docility between shrieking purple covers, diagonally across each, in thrustful, defiant black letters, appearing the single word "Blast." The book has nothing to do with the war. Dynamite and kindred powers are not once mentioned; nor is it a treatise on quarrying. "Blast" is purely and simply—perhaps not quite so simply as purely—a magazine about art, revolutionary art, art as conceived by an unconventional set of young men calling themselves "Vorticists." Having something new and striking, and strange, to say about art, and finding themselves unable to express their sublime originality after the style of the "Futurists" "Aesthetes," "Impressionists," "Cubists," and others, they have produced their own quarterly magazine, thus securing an independent medium for those "vivid and violent ideas" which would seem to constitute the essence of "Vorticism."

The Art of Anathematizing.

It is in the nature of things that these vivid and violent young rebels should begin their book by anathematizing the things they do not like. The black list includes all sorts of people and things. "Long live the great art vortex sprung up in the centre of this (London) town" cries the editor (Mr. Wyndham Lewis). "We want to leave nature and men alone. . . We do not want to change the appearance of the world. . . We only want the world to live and to feel its crude energy flowing through us."

What this crude world-energy flowing through the veins of the vorticists is may be left to the

reader to decide. The vorticist scorns bishops, but he truly loves his barber, uttering the following poem to the barber's pole: "Bless the hairdresser. He attacks mother nature for a small fee. Hourly he ploughs heads for sixpence. Scours chins and lips for threepence. He makes systematic mercenary war on this wildness. He trims aimless and retrograde growths into clean arched shapes and angular plots. Bless this Hessian (or Silesian) expert, correcting the grotesque anachronisms of our physique."

Let it not be supposed, however, that the vorticist would equally praise any attempt to make mercenary war upon the wildness of his mind, trimming its aimless growths and correcting its grotesque anachronisms.

Vorticist Poetry.

Having wandered thus far through a tangled growth of curses and "manifestoes" the patient reader comes upon a little open space, where sits one Ezra Pound writing vorticist "poems." The note of revolt is at once struck:—

"Let us deride the smugness of 'The Times'; Guffaw!"

Leaving ensuing lines to the puzzle experts of the monthly magazines, the closing defiant and scornful lines may be quoted:—

"Here is the taste of my Boot, Caress it, lick off the Blacking."

Vorticist Drama.

The editor of "Blast" has perpetrated a "play" called "The enemy of the stars," a light, fantastic work, possessing not a single intelligible line from beginning to end. The author himself might describe it as frantically fatuous and dazzlingly obscure. Here at any rate we see the volatile vorticist at his best and his worst—the words are synonymous in this connexion.

Miss Rebecca West contributes a comparatively simple, but quite incomprehensible, story under the title "Indissoluble Matrimony."

"Evadne!" He sprang to his feet. "You're preparing your speech!"

"She did not move. 'I am,' she said."

"—— you shan't speak!"

"—— I will."

The tragedy is about to touch its climax. The knife is raised, when Evadne intervenes with this:—

"You idiot, can't you hear the kettle is boiling over?"

"He shrank back, letting the knife drop to the floor."

The Only Bit of Commonsense.

Many examples of vorticist graphic art will be found in "Blast." As with the literary contributions, they are, with two surprising exceptions, incomprehensible. There is little difference between the "Sketch of Newcastle" and the "Portrait of an Englishman." Were the titles to be transposed, no one would be in the least bit the wiser.

The only glimpse of commonsense in the whole production is the announcement that the price of it is 2/6.

a plain statement of fact printed on the cover by some sordid publisher, knowing nothing of "Vorticism," caring less, but perfectly ready to dump its clever rubbish in the book market.

"The Spell of the East," by L. M. H. Methuen & Co., Ltd., 6/-.

Another "first impressions" addition to the numberless books written by the tourist in Japan, reminiscent sometimes of Lafcadio Hearn and at others of Murray's Guide.

The visitor lands at Moji, where "from the darkening shore lights glowed forth, and the damp air bore strange Eastern odours across the water." From there through the Inland Sea to Kobe and on to Yokohama, where the services of a guide are requisitioned to get back to Miyajima via Kobe.

The book is not an itinerary, however, but rather a series of studies made by the author at most of the show places of Japan. There are chapters not worth reading at all, and others worth reading two or three times; of the latter may be mentioned "The Flowers of Japan"—its little babies and merry children—with whom the author deals with charming sympathy. "The Faerie Isles"—of Matsushima—again float vividly on the clear northern waters of the Pacific, and one can see the sunshine on the sails of the little fleets that thread those narrow seas, and hear again, in the author's words, the story of Urashima, the Japanese

Rip van Winkle. The chapter on the Hokkaido country, "Among the Aborigines," is also an interesting one; but possibly the making of many books on Nikko, Kyoto, and Miyanoshta leave one with a jaded appetite that few authors can stimulate when dealing lightly with these shrines, still less when chapters are burdened with paragraphs more than three pages long.

..

"Matriculation English Course," by J. C. Nesfield, M. A. MacMillan & Co., Ltd. 3/6.

The well known author of "English Grammar, Past and Present" has produced in this handy little volume a most useful aid to the study of English. The book is intended primarily to meet the requirements of students working for the matriculation examinations of the London and Provincial Universities, the Oxford Senior Local, the Cambridge Senior Local, the Oxford and Cambridge Joint Board and other similar examinations. It is divided into three parts, the first dealing with essay and précis writing, the second with studies and exercises subsidiary to composition and the third with figures of speech, prosody and style. Other than students working for examinations will find the volume exceedingly useful.

..

"A First Book of Geology" by Albert Wilmore, D. Sc. (Lond.) MacMillan & Co., Ltd. 1/6.

The Signature.

To distinguish the *original and genuine Worcestershire Sauce* from the many imitations, see that the signature of Lea & Perrins appears in *White* across the *Red* label on every bottle.

No other sauce has such an exquisitely delicate flavour, or such a reputation among discriminating people in every part of the world.

Lea & Perrins

This is an interesting and skilful introduction to the science of geology by an author who knows how to help the student over preliminary difficulties.

"A Guide to the Study of English," by F. J. Rowe, M.A. and W. T. Webb. M. A. MacMillan & Co., Ltd. 3/6.

The predecessor of this useful compendium, "Hints on the Study of English," was written for the use of Indian students. The authors are fully justified in thinking that under its new title, and with the necessary alteration which have been made in it, the book will be helpful to British students also.

The publishers of the Home University Library, Messrs. Williams and Norgate, London, have added to their well known series the following: "Wars between England and America" by Prof. T. C. Smith; "The Ancient East" by D. G. Hogarth; "An Outline of Russian Literature," by the Hon. Maurice Baring; a "History of Scotland," by Prof. R. S. Rait, and "Political Thought in England from Bacon to Halifax," by G. P. Gooch. Each of these admirable volumes is published at 1/- net in cloth and 2/6 net in leather gilt.

"History of Freemasonry in Northern China," North-China Printing and Publishing Co., Ltd., Tientsin.

This work is compiled chiefly from the records of Mr. F. M. Gratton, prominent freemason of an earlier day, and it has been brought up to date and enlarged by the authority of Mr. Robert S. Ivy, District Grand Master of English Freemasonry in Northern China. The data covered refers to the laying of foundation stones, consecration of lodges, and other masonic functions dating from the beginning of the masonic craft in China. The first masonic hall in Shanghai appears to have been erected under the aegis of the Northern Lodge of China at a meeting of that lodge held in 1852. The site was pur-

chased in Park Lane, Nanking Road, and it was opened about March, 1855.

Six years afterwards a second hall was being built, in Canton Road, and the history of masonry is traced onwards from that date until the building of the present Masonic Hall on The Bund, the foundation stone of which was laid on July 3, 1855. The work abounds with interesting items and biographies of men whose names are well-known in China to the older hands even to-day, but many of whom have long since passed to their rest. Among such incidents it is interesting to note that the ceremony of laying the foundation stone of Trinity Church, now known as Holy Trinity Cathedral, was conducted by the masonic body on May 24, 1866, with all the rites and ceremonies of the craft. A brief history is given of the lodges now working under the various constitutions.

THE NEW JAPANESE CABLE.

LINE TO SHANGHAI NOW OPEN.

The new Japanese telegraphic cable between Shanghai and Nagasaki has been completed and is now operating, the line being opened on the 1st instant. Apparently, no detailed information with regard to the service has yet been issued, and officially we are only able to learn that the cable, of the duplex type, was laid by the Japanese Post Office and that the charge for transmission of messages is thirty cents per Japanese word of seven letters, this tariff presumably applying to foreign words also. On the face of it, this rate is lower than that of the European lines, but actually the ten-figure code system generally in use will most probably have the effect of bringing the rates up to the forty-five cents hitherto charged.

It may be remembered that when the Great Northern Company's agreement with Japan was renewed some time ago, one of the conditions was that its rates should be lowered and that Japan should be allowed to lay a cable to Shanghai. The inauguration of the new line introduces a new element of competition, the course of which will be interesting to follow.

Arrangements with China.

As far as we are able to ascertain, the announcement that special arrangements have been made about Chinese telegrams by the Japanese Consul at Shanghai and the Minister at Peking apply only to the laying of the cable, and not to a working arrangement in China. Up to the present, neither the Chinese Telegraph office at Shanghai, nor

the other cable companies, have accepted messages from the Japanese office for re-transmission to other parts of China, the new service being only local, that is to say, there is no through service over the new line from Japan to any part of China. It is interesting to note that the charge of thirty cents per Japanese word of seven letters has been made possible in consequence of a simple system of romanization invented by a Japanese.

According to the "Japan Chronicle" messages in Japanese and European languages will be transmitted at a charge of 34 sen per word between Shanghai and Japan. The minimum charge on one message (says the "Asahi") will be Tls. 1.02 (the charge for three words). In Japanese messages seven characters will be taken as one word, and the address will be considered one word regardless of the number of characters. Some discount will be allowed on Japanese and Chinese Government messages.

CANADA AND THE WAR.

ENTHUSIASTIC LOYALTY OF ALL CLASSES.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Ottawa, Nov. 23.

In my last letter particulars were given as to the scheme which the Government had prepared as to the help which Canada would gladly and willingly give towards increasing the number of men fighting for the Empire. It practically amounted to keeping up a force from Canada at the front of 30,000 men. Now, however, this number will be increased: at the moment there is no definite statement to be made as to what this increase will be, but it is generally understood the total will be enlarged to 50,000. This is due to the demand made by Lord Kitchener for "more men," and also, to some less limited extent, to a feeling here that Canada was not being represented as fully as she ought to be. Canada's proportion should be as compared with the forces being raised in Great Britain at least 175,000 men, and this as compared with the figures prior to the last determination to raise another million men.

Volunteers are still coming forward in large numbers, and there will be no difficulty in raising all the men whom the Government and Lord Kitchener may ask for from here. The great difficulty will be equipping them: the same difficulty which has been felt in both Great Britain and France. But now 16,000 men have already been fully equipped: the machinery for quickly equipping others is now in good order, so a

Sore throat

is a dangerous malady, not only affecting the glands and delicate membranes, but impairing their action. SCOTT'S Emulsion soothes, heals and strengthens the throat—while the pure cod liver oil and tonic hypophosphites strengthen every part of the body. Forty years' tests have proved



SCOTT'S Emulsion

quicker supply of men can be looked forward to in the future.

Some surprise was expressed that the British Army Council did not ask for cavalry or mounted rifles in the second contingent. No explanation was given, but it is thought it was owing to so many of the cavalry men being engaged in the trenches armed with rifles and bayonets while their normal work of reconnaissance was left to the air men. However, as it is more than likely that mounted rifles will be required in the not distant future, either for use in Europe or elsewhere, the Government has decided to at once organize four regiments of them. There is a large quantity of material available, and the regiments will be raised in Ontario, Manitoba, Alberta and British Columbia.

The second contingent will receive longer training here than the first, and it is satisfactory to know that special and increased attention will be paid to bayonet drill. This has been rather overlooked in the Militia in the past, but the fighting at the war has shown what a great part the bayonet is playing in it.

The Universities of Canada are anxious to share in the work of the defence of the Empire, in the same way as Oxford and Cambridge are so nobly doing. The scheme at present is that those undergraduates who volunteer will continue their studies during the present session, drill as much as possible, go into camp in the spring, and to England when called upon. It is thought that at least 2,000 fine young soldiers will thus be obtained.

The export of nickel has been prohibited by the Dominion Government except to friendly countries. This it is hoped will be a blow to Germany, as nickel is so necessary for her armaments. Canada has the largest supply of it in the world: it is said that other sources are almost negligible. The export of lead has also been forbidden except under proper conditions. It is reported that Germany is growing short of this: it is to be hoped that she is.

Canadians are watching with great interest the trend of opinion in the United States as to the war. It is overwhelmingly on the side of the Allies: this has been so from the first; but now there is becoming visible a feeling that the country should not be neutral. This does not go so far as demanding that America should go to war with Germany, but that as she was a signatory to the Hague Conference guaranteeing the neutrality of Belgium, she ought to enter a protest against its violation. Ex-President Roosevelt has

said that by not doing so she has "shirked her duty." Robert Bacon a former Secretary of States, condemns a policy of silence in the circumstances as "as weak as it is unwise." Other prominent Americans have expressed the same views. The answer to them is generally that the almost universal condemnation of Germany by the American people is even more convincing than an official protest would be.

This is true enough in a sense, but Germany need not take any notice of this opinion: she would be compelled to answer before the world a protest from the Government of the United States. People here do not want America to help them: they are quite satisfied that though the sacrifices will be great the Allied Forces will be able in the end to bring the German Emperor to his knees. Still they do feel that in the cause of liberty, the sanctity of treaties, common humanity, civilization and Christianity, the official voice of the United States should be heard in protest against Germany's violation of them all. Rumours have been heard here of late that President Wilson intends to take this step, but little credence is given to them.

Germany is still endeavouring to influence Canadian opinion in her favour. The Dominion Government has made it a criminal offence to circulate or possess anti-British and German papers. The penalty is a fine of \$5,000 or two years' imprisonment. But the Germans are now trying to send in papers and pamphlets favouring their cause through the post in envelopes. They even post them in Italy: but the Post Office authorities are keeping a watchful eye upon all their schemes. The most difficult papers to deal with are some American ones, or so-called American ones, though they are owned principally by Germans, which profess to give both sides of the question, but artfully suggest that the right is on that of Germany. In other cases the mendacity is open and shocking. But these attempts are of course unavailing: no one believes anything which the Germans say now: that "scrap of paper" incident, and the atrocities in Belgium, have stamped their whole nation as liars and Huns.

The Redskins, the first citizens of Canada, the loyal subjects of King George, are showing their loyalty to the Empire. From almost every tribe from the Yukon to Nova Scotia offers of men and donations of money have been received as "a tangible expression of their desire that Great Britain may ever remain the guardian of the weak and the arbiter of the world's peace." This quotation gives an idea of the working of the resolutions passed by various tribes. Over \$13,000 has

already been contributed by them to be used at the discretion of the Government.

Many of the Indians have asked permission to go to the front to fight for their "Great Father," the King. As a matter of fact there are nearly twenty of them at the Camp at Salisbury now. The Isimpshean tribes of northern British Columbia have offered to form a corps of guides. One band sent \$1,000 towards the Patriotic Fund "to assist in alleviating some of the misery caused by the European conflict—especially throughout the Belgian country." So far as I can judge these Indians are the only people on the face of the earth that the German Emperor has omitted to try to stir up against the British. What success he would have met with you can now judge.

The scheme of pensions for Canadian soldiers is now being drawn up by the Militia Department. No statement has yet been issued, but it is understood that it will follow the American allowance of about six tenths of the regular day's pay, which is a dollar. This is considerably more than that paid to British soldiers, although from recent reports it is probable that a more liberal allowance will be made them in future than the shilling a day.

One result of the war will be the foundation of a Scientific and Industrial Research Bureau in Canada, formed by the co-operation of all the universities and assisted by the Government. There has been great complaint amongst a limited number of the most progressive and far-seeing Canadians for a long time past that research work in the Dominion has been so much neglected. This has not been from want of good men: there are hundreds of Canadians doing such work in the United States, much to its advantage: the want has been money. Now that Germany's and Austria's trade has been cut off, it has become necessary to find substitutes for many articles which can only be done by the Bureau which is in course of formation.

We are having a certain amount of trouble with the German, Austrian and Turkish reservists who have been rounded up. They are being kept in certain places under guard, but are doing nothing in return for their keep. Their numbers are running into large figures. The latest proposal which the Government will probably adopt is to employ them under proper supervision in clearing up the public parks, making roads through them and so on. The word parks should be understood to refer to national parks or forest reserves. In the spring it is proposed to utilize them in breaking up and tilling suitable Dominion

lands not now cultivated in the west. They may also be employed in lumber camps.

So far as the business of the country is concerned the war does not seem to have very seriously affected it: in fact in many directions it has improved it. Thus very large orders amounting to millions of dollars have been received from Great Britain, France and Russia for clothing, boots and many other things. The flour and sugar industries have been a little upset by the action of the British Government in going into the markets, but the effect of this is expected to pass before very long. As to exports and imports I would prefer to report next month so as to be able to make better comparisons. The war has given an impetus to farming operations. Great supplies will be wanted of all kinds of agricultural produce, particularly of grain. It is stated that the acreage under crop in the west next season will be increased by at least 25 per cent.

We have been treated to a translation of a Chinese pamphlet by Yang Chun-tze, which is said to have been distributed largely in Shanghai for the benefit of the Chinese and Japanese. It is a most abusive document, and of course is an attempt to win favour for the Germans. It says that the British are the "real criminals" who brought on the war, France and Russia simply being their tools. England also "bullied" Germany! They had "devilish designs on German independence." The British are low worms, liars, curs and thieves. It would be interesting to know how much this courteous and truthful gentleman received for this explosive and veracious pamphlet, or whether this is the pen name of Court Bernstorff. Anyway it does seem to have done much harm so far as we can judge over here, but it has contributed to our mirth.

Attention has had to be paid to the attempts of the Germans to use the wireless telegraphy. No doubt exists that they have been using it here, but it is possible that they are doing so still, so artful are they. Three of them were recently arrested

in Halifax where they were operating an installation. It was not operated as usual from a pole or mast, but to escape observation was trailed out of a third storey window and concealed amid some vines. This information may be useful in detecting their operations in other parts of the world. The registration of all persons of alien enemy nationality has been ordered by the Government and has to be done before the end of this month.

A LAST GLIMPSE OF LORD ROBERTS.

INTERESTING LETTER FROM MAJOR SOUTER.

Mr. Henry Souter has been kind enough to send us the following interesting letter from his brother Major N. M. Souter, A. D. C. to Sir James Willcocks, who is in command of the Indian troops at the front.

The place, writes Major Souter, is a sheet of ice, and it is most confoundingly cold. Absolutely stinking cold. It freezes all day and at night it is perfect hell. Those poor fellows day after day in the trenches! It is a little trying after doing every day of a Nowshera hot weather—six months of it to the day. I landed at Marseilles when for the first time it was really pleasant, and then this, seven weeks afterwards. I am quite fit, but one feels it.

I have had three most interesting experiences lately. The first was dear old Lord Bobs' visit to us a little over a week ago. I commanded the Guard of Honour here at our Headquarters, and then as A. D. C. accompanied him and my General round the whole of our Corps, or rather those of them that were not in the trenches. It was a perfect pleasure to see his delight at seeing his Indian troops again. His memory was wonderful, and his brain as active and as keen as ever.

A Dramatic Setting.

You could not have had a more dramatic setting. In the near distance boomed those everlasting and unceasing guns, and like an old hunter who sees his beloved hounds once more, every now and again he lifted his eyes, shining with fire and made some remark: "Ah, the gunners are busy; hope our fellows are shooting straight," or some remark of that sort. What we soldiers all felt, and no one more keenly than myself, was "Yes, but had the nation only heeded your voice, we would not be fighting this uphill fight, waiting, waiting for our big Army to be trained during a war, instead of for years and years before." And yet never a word of complaint such as "Didn't I tell you!" but remarks rather like this: "Well, gentlemen, you have got a thundering fine Army up against you, but the British Army is proving that

it is made of the same gallant stuff the British Army was always made of; you will pull them over all right in the end."

To the last day of his life—and I shall ever remember that I was as intimately associated on the last day but one of his life—he exhorted and encouraged his troops to do their duty, a little thing he had done for sixty-one years. And the next day he was gone. We were completely knocked over by the blow, and I can hardly write about it now.

"An Absolute Ripper."

Two days ago in a similar manner I accompanied General Willcocks, showing Prince Arthur round—an absolute ripper, with great charm of manner. To-day it was the Prince of Wales. Quite a tiny wee fellow, with two tiny little legs swathed in puttees, but a charming, boy, and I should say with a will of his own.

No Tails Down.

This is one side of my life—interludes—the other is business, and work lasts for sixteen hours a day outside and in. . . I am asking tomorrow morning to get this through by the King's Messenger. You may get it on Monday morning. How curious to talk of the days of the week. If D— had not said tomorrow was Sunday, I could not have told you for £100 what the day of the week was.

Well, we are very cheery and have got our tails up, and the Germans no longer write or think of our "contemptible little Army."

COMFORTS FOR THE TROOPS.

A GLOVE WITH LONG GAUNTLET.

Abbreviations, k., knit; p., purl.

Materials: six ounces of Paton's three-ply Alloa yarn for a pair, and a set of No. 12, steel knitting needles.

Cast twenty-four stitches on each of three needles, seventy-two all round.

Now knit in rounds, doing ribs of three plain and one purl for thirty rounds. This is the widest part of the gauntlet, so if a longer gauntlet is required more rounds may be worked here before beginning to decrease, as of course this will fit over the thickest part of the arm.

31st round. In this round decrease in each alternate rib by knitting the second and third stitches of the rib together, and as there are eighteen ribs altogether, you will have decreased in nine ribs, so there will be nine stitches less, sixty-three stitches in the round.

Now do thirty rounds in rib, taking care to knit only two stitches in the decreased rib.

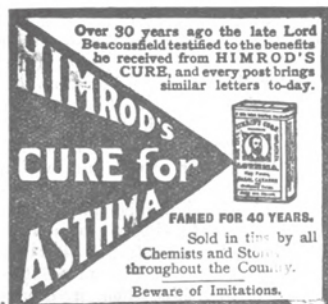
Over 30 years ago the late Lord Beaconsfield testified to the benefits he received from HIRMUD'S CURE, and every post brings similar letters to-day.

HIRMUD'S CURE for ASTHMA

FAMED FOR 40 YEARS.

Sold in tin by all Chemists and Stores throughout the Country.

Beware of Imitations.



Next round. Decrease in those knitted ribs that have three stitches, that will be in the ribs not decreased before, and you will thus decrease another nine stitches; fifty-four stitches left on the round.

You will now get an even rib of knit two and purl one, all round of which do thirty-six rounds.

This completes the gauntlet, and the hand is now continued in plain knitting.

Do ten rounds of plain knitting. 11th round. Begins the thumb—K2, increase 1 by picking up the thread of wool that lies directly below the next stitch and knitting it, K2, increase 1, knit plain to end of the round.

Knit 2 plain rounds.

14th round. K2, increase 1, knit 4, increase 1, knit to end of round.

Knit 2 plain rounds.

17th round. K2, increase 1, knit 6, increase 1, knit to end.

Knit 2 plain rounds.

20th round. K2, increase 1, knit 8, increase 1, knit to end.

Knit 2 plain rounds.

23rd round. K, increase 1, knit 10, increase 1, knit to end.

Knit 2 plain rounds.

26th round. K2, increase 1, knit 12, increase 1, knit to end.

Knit 2 plain rounds.

29th round. K2, increase 1, knit 14, increase 1, knit to the end.

Knit 2 plain rounds.

32nd round. K2, increase 1, knit 16, increase 1, knit to end.

Knit 2 plain rounds.

35th round. K2, increase 1, knit 18, increase 1, knit to end.

38th round. K3, slip the next 18 stitches on to a spare needle, they are for the thumb and can remain for the present, knit 15 more stitches on the same needle as you have the three stitches on already, knit 18 stitches on the 2nd needle and 18 stitches on the 3rd needle, so the round consists of 54 stitches as before.

Work 34 plain rounds for the hand.

35th round. On the 1st needle knit 2 together, knit 4, knit 2 together, knit 4, knit 2 together, knit 4, and the same on each of the other needles and you will have 15 stitches on each needle.

Knit 6 plain rounds.

42nd round. On the first needle knit 2 together, knit 13, and the same on each of the other needles, and you will now have 14 stitches on each needle.

Knit 8 plain rounds.

51st round. K2 together continuously throughout the round, and the stitches will be reduced to 7 on each needle.

52nd round. Plain.

53rd round. Again knit 2 together continuously, and knit the odd stitch plain at the end of the round.

54th round. Plain, there are 11 stitches in the round. Break off the wool with an end of 6 or 7 in-

ches long, thread the end in a rug needle, and take the 11 stitches from the needles on to the wool, drawing them up closely together to form the top of the hand, run the wool through the stitches a second time, then turn inside out and secure the wool by darning it firmly on the wrong side of the knitting. Replace the work on the right side, and resume for the thumb—Take upon 3 needles the 18 stitches that were left standing upon a spare needle, and pick up four more stitches in the gap between the last stitch and the first, and so get 22 stitches in the round.

Knit 18 plain rounds.

19th round. Knit 2 together continuously all round.

Knit 3 plain rounds.

Break off the wool, and finish off the thumb in the same way as you finished off the hand part, being very careful to make it secure.

THE BOOM IN SHIPPING.

TONNAGE SCARCE AND FREIGHTS HIGH.

For the past few weeks a rather unusual situation has been prevalent in the local shipping trade, and while tonnage is scarce and freights are high there is not much trade to speak of. Usually, a boom in shipping or high freights, signifies a big trade. If in any one country there is a large cargo to be moved and freights move up, new ships come into the trade and freights are brought down; only when all tramps and other shipping available are engaged in other and profitable business do rates move up as high as they have done at present.

At present the cause of high freights is the want of tonnage, both in the local trade and at home. In the Far Eastern coast trade, the Hamburg-Amerika and the N.-D.L. are withdrawn on account of the war. The usual tramp steamers are partly engaged at home and partly in the south, in the Hongkong-Manila Bangkok-Saigon-Hongkong and Saigon-Manila trade. The steamers on these routes are mainly engaged in transporting rice and other purely local products. Formerly, this business was practically in the hands of the Germans whose steamers are laid up at present. The result is that in the Northern routes, the China Merchants, Jardine's and Butterfield's lines besides the Japanese boats have all the trade. There is more than enough of purely local traffic for these lines; hence, rates have moved up. So far as the total of the traffic is concerned, there is little likelihood of any increase.

The Ocean Trade.

In the ocean trade, there is little movement in the import trade. But even for what there is, there

are not enough steamers to carry it. The Government at home has taken about 1,200 steamers from the regular trade and is using them in the transport of troops, stores, wounded, etc., between the Continent and England and other parts of the Empire and Europe. The French have taken all their tonnage, with few exceptions, for similar purposes, including that of transporting German prisoners to Algeria. German and Austrian vessels are all, of course, interned. Therefore, ships available for commerce are few in number—practically all of them British tonnage. These have to attend to American trade with the neutral nations, in Europe, as also the bulk of the South American business. Freights, therefore, are high; and few are available for the Far East.

China Exports Affected.

In the same manner, the export trade from China is also affected. The British and French are the only ocean going steamers; and the French lines are very irregular. The few conference steamers that are running are finding profitable tonnage in Malaya in rubber and tin, and India also supplies paying cargo. Considerably reduced as the export trade from China is, there are not enough steamers to carry even the cargo at present bargained. It is stated that over 25,000 tons of cargo from Hankow, Tientsin and other northern ports are seeking space, which cannot be obtained at present, at any price.

America's Chance.

Usually, the American lines are slack. Now that a large quantity of cargo, even that which used to go to Europe, goes through America, and there is a large passenger traffic, all the steamers in this line being fully engaged. As a matter of fact, there are not enough steamers to cope with the present traffic. Further, the route via Panama was opened during the war, and a large amount of cargo to New York, and even Europe, is going by that route.

The Japanese lines are all working as fully as can be expected: but their tonnage is not sufficient to meet the present demand.

It is believed that as the export cargo that is awaiting shipment will be moved as early as possible, the Conference may charter some steamers at an early date. The export trade is very slack, mainly owing to the impossibility of shipping cargo to Europe.

Shipping at Home.

The following extract from the "Financial Times" of November 21 is instructive as regards shipping at home:—

At the moment there is a tendency for shipping freights to recede a little after the notable recovery which has recently taken place. How great that recovery

has been may be gathered from the fact that from 12s. 6d. per ton on the Argentine route a few months ago, the figure has now risen to something like 28s. this extraordinary movement being due to elimination of German competition. Similar advances have taken place in other parts of the world, with the result that shipowners are no longer apprehensive regarding their prospects, for while it is true that expenses are at a higher level than usual, and particularly in connexion with insurance charges, most of the regular lines are now doing very well, while a similar remark applies to tramp owners. Another important factor tending to help the shipping industry as a whole is the large sums which have recently been paid by the Government under their contracts for war transport work. These disbursements have proved of material assistance to some of the largest shipping organizations. With the elimination of the Hamburg-America Line from the world's ocean trading business, the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company is easily the largest concern of its kind in existence, and the improved conditions which have recently come into force are probably proving of more immediate benefit to that great undertaking than to other and smaller shipping companies. To what extent the Royal Mail Company has benefited it is impossible to say; it is quite possible that when the accounts of 1914 are made up the ordinary stockholders will find that, although they received no interim dividend in respect of the current year, their position as regards the entire twelve months will not be much below that of 1912 and 1913, for both of which years six per cent. was forthcoming.

AN UNZEN WINTER HOLIDAY.

GLORIES OF A MOUNTAIN RESORT.

From a Correspondent.

Few of the many Unzen devotees in Shanghai can have visited the mountain in winter. Some notes, therefore, from one who is spending the Christmas and New Year holidays there may well arouse interest and suggest something different from the stereotyped houseboat trip, when one so often pursues game in the hope that even a third-class marksman's shot may sometimes hit, and returning hungry and wet to the boat is met by the cook's ironic remark, "Stove no plover. Chow maybe one hour more."

In Nagasaki the main streets show signs everywhere of the approaching festivities for the celebration of the New Year. The very telegraph and telephone poles are swathed in crimson cotton cloth. Shop signs and house pillars are bordered with evergreen. Flags well! flags everyone displays. The triumphal arches so lately erected to welcome the returning battalions from Tsingtao remain. The principal one of these decorative arches, stuccoed and fitted with sockets and wiring to be lit electrically at night, cost, we learn, some three thousand yen.

Home from the Front.

Many of the troops engaged in Shantung belonged to garrisons of

the south and hence disembarked here to proceed inland by rail. The railway station was behind no public building in displaying the welcome home. Leaving by train, at Isahaya or Aino, it was interesting to see festooned arches at the different villages en route. At one station an enormous crowd, patient and happy, awaited the arrival of something or of somebody. We were not guessing long. At the next loop a troop train was drawn up waiting for the express to pass by. Every seat was occupied and our surmising ceased. Actually when the transports arrived all the heights round the harbour were beflagged and bedizened with lanterns.

The rail follows the shore for some distance and this part of the journey was entrancing. Leaving the main line at the Junction, an equally enticing journey took us to where we must take the road. The pleasure was heightened by the possibility of looking well around us now, instead of being confined in a railway carriage, and by the more leisurely speed at which we went.

The isthmus views are lovely enough in summer, but imagine the effect when the air is keen and bracing. When the sea on either hand is a bluer blue and when the clearness of the atmosphere brings the distances so much nearer. There was snow on the higher peaks, little it is true, but plainly there. We spent one night on the Obama sea shore and then, getting a pack horse for our baggage, marched inland and upland.

Crime of Business Rivalry.

We reached the "Fair View" teahouse at noon only to find it dismantled and a crop sown on the site. We sat and had some refreshment near by and learnt that the place was the scene of a maniacal tragedy not very long ago. It seems that the place was established by two women who were so successful in business that they incurred the jealous anger of their nearest neighbour. He offered to buy and they refused to sell the property to him. Negotiations were opened to dispose of the business to friends they said. A day was decided upon for the pow-wow. In the midst of the bargaining, behold the infuriated rival appear. After killing the four assembled, he ran away and disposed of his own life.

The hills on either hand above the tree line are brown, there is no green there: but the woods show little sign of decay. For the most part this is due to the firs, but the underbrush is mainly evergreen and, where the underbrush is not so, the leaves, variegated as they are with the warmth of autumn, have not lost their foliage altogether. Those flaming reds—the tall tree, the shumac, and the so-

called maple—never failed to draw the eye. Much of the humbler herb life is yet in blossom. Roses and orange fruit can here and there be seen side by side.

New Year's Lucky Cake.

Japanese life for the past few days seems to centre in the preparation of mochi—the New Year cake. Huge cauldrons outside in the street, brought evidently by a peripatetic gang of workers, heat the rice in square trays for the strapping coolies who pound it with huge mallets into a pliable resilient mass in a granite mortar. This is the food, or ought we to say delicacy, that is to bring good luck for the ensuing year. The Western calendar is observed more particularly in the towns than in the remoter villages. Many of the country folk even yet prefer to celebrate the beginning of things according to the old Chinese reckoning. Hence it is that you may easily avoid the hooligan when he mafficks, by moving a few miles away from a big town.

The foreign community are losing some of their number for the war and those that remain organize themselves as workers for Relief Funds.

MEETING.

THE SHANGHAI MALAY ESTATES.

The adjourned extraordinary general meeting of shareholders in the Shanghai Malay Rubber Estates, Ltd., was held on the 5th instant, at 10 Hankow Road, the offices of the Secretary, Mr. M. G. Beck. Mr. G. Grayrigg presided, supported by Messrs. R. N. Truman, E. S. Kadoorie, and S. Benjamin (directors).

The notice convening the meeting having been read, the Chairman said: Gentlemen, You will recollect that at the extraordinary meeting held on July 9 last, which was subsequently from time to time adjourned, a proposal was made by an influential body of shareholders that an alternative scheme might be advantageously laid before you for your consideration, before voting on the scheme proposed at that meeting. As you will gather from the remarks which I have to make at the opening of the second extraordinary meeting, to be held immediately after this meeting, your Directors have decided to withdraw their scheme as set out in the resolutions before this meeting. With these remarks, unless any shareholder wishes to express his views, I beg to propose that this meeting be deemed to be closed.

Mr. R. N. Truman seconded the Chairman's proposal, which was agreed to, the meeting accordingly terminating.

A second extraordinary general meeting was then held, Mr. Grayrigge presiding.

The Chairman said: Gentlemen, You may recollect that at the extraordinary general meeting held on July 9 last, when the Directors proposed a scheme of reconstruction, it was opposed by a few shareholders present, who were invited to form a committee to discuss other ways and means of raising money with the Board. In the meantime, this committee and the Board have met several times, and whilst the Directors consider their original scheme to be still the best in the interests of shareholders, the committee assures them that it has no chance of being adopted, therefore the Board place before you the committee's scheme as outlined in the circular letter to shareholders dated December 24, 1914, the terms of which are clearly defined in resolution "A" which was enclosed with the said letter. Whereas the Directors' scheme provided for a reduction of capital and fresh issues thereof, the committee's scheme provides only for an increase of capital on very advantageous terms to subscribers.

I wish to bring distinctly to your notice that if you pass the committee's scheme, the Board propose only to go to allotment on a minimum subscription of Tls. 25,000 and that any unsubscribed balance, after first being offered to shareholders, will be dealt with at the discretion of the Board, but no sales will be made below par. With these few remarks I beg to propose Resolution "A": That the capital of the Company be increased by the creation of 30,000 new shares of Tls. 10 each to be called preference shares, to which there shall be attached the special rights and privileges following, that is to say:— (1) The holders of such preference shares shall be entitled to receive out of the profits of the Company as a first charge a cumulative preferential dividend at the rate of 8 per cent. per annum on the capital for the time being paid up on such shares respectively. (2) Whenever the profits of the Company in respect of any financial year shall be more than sufficient to pay the preferential dividend aforesaid to the close of such year and any arrears thereof accumulated as aforesaid, then the holders of preference shares shall be entitled to participate *pari passu* with the holders of ordinary shares in any dividend paid out of such surplus profits in proportion to the capital paid up on all shares. (3) The capital paid up on the preference shares shall not be liable to cancellation or reduction in respect of loss or depreciation. (4) In the event of the winding up of the Company the holders of the preference shares shall be entitled to have the surplus assets applied first in paying off the capital paid up on the preference shares held by them re-

spectively; secondly, in paying off the arrears (if any) of the preferential dividend aforesaid to the commencement of the winding up and thereafter to participate rateably with the holders of other shares in the residue (if any) of such surplus assets as shall remain after paying off the capital paid up on such other shares. (5) Every holder of preference shares shall have one vote for every preference share held by him. (6) The preference shares shall be issued in accordance with the provisions of Article 39 of the Company's Articles of Association.

Mr. E. F. Bateman asked if the Directors proposed to give any estimate of the prospects of the company as an inducement to shareholders to take up shares. At present, they were more or less in the dark as to out-put, and so on.

The Chairman replied that the Directors had not yet considered this point, but they would do so.

Mr. H. Robertson seconded the resolution, which was adopted.

The Chairman continued: With regard to resolution "B" you will notice that it is to alter Article No. 66 of the Company's Articles of Association, which in its present state limits the vote of any member to twenty, irrespective of their holdings. This does not seem equitable, and to give shareholders a voice in matters commensurate with their interests, this Resolution has been framed, and furthermore clause 5 of Resolution "A" makes the adoption of this resolution "B" expedient. I now beg to propose the adoption of Resolution "B":

That the Articles of Association be altered in manner following:— The following Article shall be substituted for Article 66, namely:—On a show of hands every member in person, and on a poll, every member present in person or by proxy shall have one vote for each preference and each ordinary share held by him. Where a Corporation being a member is present by a proxy, who is not a member, such proxy shall be entitled to vote for such corporation on a show of hands.

Mr. H. Robertson seconded the resolution, which was adopted.

The Chairman announced that the resolutions, having been passed by the requisite majority, will be submitted for confirmation as special resolutions to a second extraordinary general meeting which will be held on Thursday, January, 21 at the same time and place.

SPORT.

*ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL.

SHANGHAI FOOTBALL LEAGUE, 1ST DIVISION.

B.A. T. Football Club v. Shanghai Football Club.

Although the Shanghai Football Club defeated the B.A. T. by five

goals to two on Saturday afternoon, the game was far more even than the score indicates, and though neither side showed particularly good combination, play was always fast and interesting. In the first half Harris, Nash and Griffin scored for the Football Club, and Clifford and Williams for the B.A.T. In the second half, McEachran scored twice for the Club, who won as stated.

Shanghai Recreation Club v. Customs Recreation Club.

Only a very few spectators were present at this match, on the Hongkew Recreation ground. It was evident from the start that the Rees. were easily good for two points. During the first quarter of an hour play was almost entirely in the Customs half and a number of excellent shots were sent in. Marritto brought off two or three clever saves, but he was twice beaten, by Dawe and Wilson, both shots going through at a great pace from close range. The Customs men worked hard, Mullin and Nash on the right wing leading many dashes for goal but being poorly supported. The Rees. added four more goals and won by six goals to *nil*.

2ND DIVISION.

Thomas Hanbury School v. Shanghai Public School.

This match, played on the S. M. Police ground on Saturday afternoon, resulted in a ridiculously easy victory for the Hanbury School team by thirteen goals to *nil*. Goals were scored by Petersen (5), Hayward (4), Seredkin (2) and J. Emamooden, and one was accidentally headed into the net by Roberts, of the Public School.

Shanghai Football Club, 2nd XI v. S. M. Police, 2nd XI.

This match was played on the Shanghai Football Club's ground on Saturday afternoon and resulted in a victory for the Police by four goals to one. Daggs scored all four goals for the Police, and the Football Club's goal was scored by Mueller.

Shanghai Recreation Club, 2nd XI v. St. F. Xavier's School.

The return match between these Clubs was played on the Recreation Club's ground on Saturday afternoon and resulted in a victory for St. Francis Xavier's School by seven goals to one.

HOCKEY.

Shanghai Hockey Club v. The Harlequins.

A friendly match between these Clubs was played on the Widow's Monument ground on Saturday afternoon and an enjoyable game resulted in a victory for the Harlequins by nine goals to one.

S. M. Police v. 'B' Co., S.V.C.

In this game, played on the Polo Ground on Saturday afternoon, the Police were handicapped by having to play with only nine men, and were defeated by four goals to nil.

THE PAPER HUNT CLUB.

The hunt on New Year's Day took place in the Pagoda country which of late has come into special favour with hunters now that the home country is so cut up with roads and enclosures. The weather was fine and cold, but unfortunately the hunt was spoiled by the amount of twisting and turning indulged in to find mudholes in which to bathe the unfortunate. The tide, moreover, was very high, which doubtless accounts for many "wallows" which, when laid, may have had the appearance of jumps.

Mr. H. Tiefenbacher on Pechvogel made a gallant endeavour to win the hunt outright but was beaten on weight by Mr. I. Ezra on The Dabchick, and to these two riders the hunt was awarded. The finishing jump was the source of immense amusement to the spectators; there was no way round it, and pony after pony decided to reconsider the situation. One confident rider nearly reached the further bank, but his steed remained, and the water splashed to a prodigious height as he took it on his back. Another who left his mount half in the water enlisted much assistance to extricate it—in fact everybody was helping but the pony stayed where he was. There were many other incidents, humorous and tragic, at this last jump, which indeed was as excellent a diversion from the spectators' point of view as has been seen for a long time.

The card reads as follows:—

1. Mr. I. Ezra on Dabchick.
2. Mr. H. Tiefenbacher on Pechvogel.
3. Mr. Liou on The Knight.
4. Mr. J. A. Hayes on Jupiter.
5. Mr. A. W. Burkill on Baby Mine.
6. Mr. C. A. Skinner on Palatine.

Saturday's Hunt.

Swimming rather than any ordinary equine accomplishment was the quality required in the hunt of January 2, though of jumping also there was plenty. But the hunt was a trying ordeal for even the stoutest of ponies, and of those which started, seventy-five per cent. failed. The day was overcast, with a slight drizzle at times, but a goodly number of riders put in an appearance at the start at London Town, and much amusement was caused at the efforts of many to cross the platform over Camel Creek, through the gap in which the tide poured in considerable volume.

Mr. E. S. Benbow Rowe won the hunt easily on Marengo, which seems to be a hardy perennial, while Mr. M. Demets won the heavy

weight on Tipster, also a well-known old pony. The hunt was some fourteen miles in length, and comparatively few finished, while the ponies were evidently only too pleased to get home again. Much credit is due to Mr. Tiefenbacher for the care with which the hunt was planned in country which is but little known, and it is the more to be regretted that the high state of the tide had converted what at ordinary times are excellent jumps into deep creeks of unknown possibilities.

The card read as follows:—

Mr. E. S. Benbow Rome, on Marengo	1
Mr. J. Johnstone on Peter	2
Mr. C. R. Burkill on Mango Tree	3
Mr. J. K. Brand on Demure Bird	4
Mr. M. Demets on Tipster	5
Mr. B. Stein on Hoptiquax	6

SHANGHAI GOLF CLUB.**New Year Pool Competitions.**

The following are the results of the New Year Pool Competitions played at Kiangwan on January 1, 2 and 3. Conditions, eighteen holes against Bogey.

"A" CLASS.

E. W. Godfrey	3	1 down.
R. A. Brand	4	"
C. W. Porter	7	"
A. P. Blunt	12	"
E. I. M. Barrett	Ser.	3 down.
H. G. Elliott	8	"

104 cards were taken out.

"B" CLASS.

G. H. Phillips	18	1 up.
H. Middleton	14	3 down.
J. H. Little	14	"
A. S. Hocking	18	"
G. H. Monro-Home	15	5 down.
D. Macdonald	17	"
E. W. H. Carpenter	14	"

72 cards were taken out.

Prince of Wales's Fund Cup.

The tie for the Prince of Wales's Fund Cup was played off on Saturday with the following result:—

E. W. Godfrey	1 down.
E. M. Ross	5 down.

CORRESPONDENCE.**OPIUM IN SHANGHAI.**

To the Editor of the

"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—I trust that you will pardon my delay in replying to your comments on my recent letter. My first impression upon reading them was that you were scarcely fair in that you put in my mouth, as it were, two very ugly words, which I did not use. I refer to "graft" and "dishonesty." If I know the meaning of those words, they mean actions that are illegal and illegitimate. I am quite sure that I did not say any such thing. If that is what you infer from my words, the fault may be yours or it may be that you know more about the Council than I do. One of my friends in commenting upon your article said that it reminded him of a legal maxim, "If your case

is weak, abuse the opposing attorney."

Now in relation to the statements in my letter;—Are they true or are they not? Is it true that there are two bankers and one opium merchant on the Council? Is it true that the banks have loaned money on the present stock of opium? If these statements are true, then I insist that my inferences are fair. You drew inferences from my statements. Have I not a like privilege? Let me change one word that seems offensive to you. Let me say that these gentlemen represent (not protect) the interests referred to, as the American and German Councillors represent the Americans and Germans in the community. If you do not think that an opium merchant was made a member of the Council to represent the opium interests, you have less discernment than I supposed.

So far as my knowledge goes Mr. Little's statement that there is no anti-opium party is quite correct. I wish there was. And Mr. Little's statement that members of the Council withdraw when matters affecting their personal affairs are discussed does not show that they are not morally certain what the decisions will be. I have no quarrel with "a Missionary." He has a right to his opinion as I have to mine, but I wish he had the courage to sign his letter instead of hiding behind a *nom de plume*. But the main question is "Have the members of the Council any moral convictions in this matter?" As I said in my previous letter, if they have, they do not betray them.

I am, etc.,

HENRY V. S. MEYERS.

Shanghai, Jan. 1.

*. If Dr. Meyers can see no difference between being elected to the Council to represent a nation and being elected to represent a trade interest, he has a great deal to learn. If he can conceive of no higher morality in a municipal body than that of defending particular interests, irrespective of public interests, we are sorry for him.—Ed.

To the Editor of the

"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—Mr. H. V. S. Meyers' letter in your esteemed paper of the 5th instant is certainly to say the least a surprise to those who are versed in municipal matters of Shanghai. Mr. Meyers' assertion that an opium merchant was made a member of the Council to represent interests in opium is very far fetched, in other words a pipe dream. Does Mr. Meyers think that all the ratepayers of Shanghai had opium in their minds when they elected Councillors? Or does he wish to influence the new arrival in Shanghai that the Council and ratepayers form a trust for any particular line of trade? If so, then it can go on for everlasting and a year after, as

Patsy O' Grady said, and there will be no end to it.

Our Councillors are gentlemen elected by the ratepayers from all nations of the foreign community with good moral standing, on whom the ratepayers can absolutely rely in their decisions for the benefit of all concerned. With regard to the loaning of money by the banks on opium, I fail to see that this has got anything to do with the point in question. Correspondents to the press as well as the Editor do not wish to go into private affairs in the press which do not concern the public, but only the concerned, if such a transaction has taken place. Further Mr. Meyers is no doubt fully aware that the Council do not reply to these attacks through the press, that he can certainly rely on a reply being forwarded to him should he address the Council direct on any matter of public interest or protest that might be brought before them.

This I should consider would give him more satisfaction than the present measures that he is adopting, or he has another alternative, that is, let him go on the platform at the annual Ratepayers' Meeting, bring forward his views to those assembled, and then he will feel the pulse of the ratepayers and soon be in possession of facts as to whether the public are in favour of or against the sale of the drug in our settlements.

The Council's letter to H. M. Minister dated November 28, 1910, from the paragraph that refers to that particular subject, shows the Council's intention to be in favour of closing down the sale of the drug, and they will no doubt be able to give satisfactory information at any Ratepayers' Meeting, if called on to do so, as to the progress that they have made or are making in this matter. (Rome was not made in a day, neither can the sale of opium cease in a day).

Why not start a crusade against the sale of spirits, tobacco, cigarettes, cigars, hotels and other luxuries. Would this find supporters? Or should we be told that the ratepayers had elected Councillors who had formed a trust also for the above?

I am, etc.,

T. W. BOWERN.

Shanghai, Jan. 5, 1915.

PRUSSIAN STUPIDITY.

To the Editor of the

"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—In his pamphlet "Might is Right" (Oxford Press, 2d. net) Professor Walter Raleigh shows how strangely German shrewdness has obtuseness combined with it. To the English mind, he says, the German political doctrine is so incredibly stupid that for many long years, while men in high authority in the German Empire—ministers, generals and pro-

fessors—expounded that doctrine at great length and with perfect clearness, hardly anyone could be found in England to take it seriously, or to regard it as anything but the vapourings of a crazy sect. We know better now. The scream of the guns has awakened us. The German doctrine is to be put to the proof.

History, he goes on to say, shows no precedent for the attainment of world-wide power by a people so politically stupid as the German people are to-day. The instances of their stupidity are so numerous that they make something like a complete history of their international relations. Here is one:—Any time during the last twenty years it has been matter of common knowledge in England that one event, and one only, would make it impossible for England to remain a mere spectator in a European war—that event being the violation of the neutrality of Holland or Belgium. There was never any secret about this. The fact was quite well known to many people who took no special interest in foreign politics. Germany has maintained in Great Britain for many years an army of spies and secret agents. Yet not one of them informed Germany of this important truth. Perhaps the radical difference between the German and the English political system blinded the astute agents.

Here is another instance: The programme of German ambition has been voluminously published for the benefit of the world. France was first to be crushed. Then Russia. Then by means of the indemnities procured from these conquests, after some years of recuperation and effort, the naval power of England was to be challenged and destroyed. This programme was set forth by high authorities, and was generally accepted. There was no criticism and no demur. The crime against the civilization of the world foreshadowed in the horrible words, "France is to be crushed," is before a high tribunal. It would be idle to discuss it here, what happened is this: The French and Russian part of the programme was put into action last July.

England, who had been told that her turn was not yet and that Germany would be ready for her in a matter of five or ten years, very naturally refused to wait her turn. She crowded up on to the scaffold, which even now is in peril of breaking down under the weight of its victims; and of burying the executioner in its ruins. But because England would not wait her turn, she is overwhelmed with accusations of treachery and inhumanity by a sincerely indignant Germany. Could stupidity, the stupidity of the wise men of Gotham, be more

fantastic or more monstrous?

A part of the accusation against England is that she has raised her hand against the nation nearest to her in blood. The alleged close kinship of England and Germany is based on bad history, and doubtful theory. The English are a very mixed race, with enormous infusions of Celtic and Roman blood. The Roman sculpture gallery in Naples is full of English faces. If the German agents would turn their attention to hatter's shops, and give the barbers a rest, they would find that no English hat fits any German head. But suppose we were cousins or brothers even, what kind of argument is that on the lips those who but a short time before were explaining with a good deal of zest, and with absolute frankness how they intended to compass our ruin?

There is something almost amiable in fatuity like this. A touch of the fool softens the brute.

I am, etc.,

G. W. P. K.

Shanghai, Jan. 5, 1915.

THE GERMAN POINT OF VIEW.

To the Editor of the

"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—We are indebted to Mr. Clouesley Brereton, M.A., Inspector in Modern Languages to the London County Council, for one of the best and cheapest books on the war. It is entitled "Who is responsible?" and is published at sevenpence by Messrs. Harrap, Portsmouth Street, Kingsway, London, W. C.

In chapter II he asks us to look at things for a moment from the German standpoint. From her geographical position Germany is specially open to foreign attack. She is the strongest and best organized nation in Europe. Yet she is hemmed in by a ring of small nations, and is refused permission to expand. Her efforts to secure a footing in Asia Minor, Brazil, Morocco, the Philippines, the Transvaal and Walfisch Bay, South Africa, have all alike been frustrated. Two of the principal seaports which she uses, Antwerp and Rotterdam, are outside her own borders, and all her trade routes, except those to Northern Europe, are commanded by Great Britain. The people have also long been living in terror of Russia, and have long recognized that an awful struggle between Slav and Teuton would almost certainly come.

Lastly, Germany's childish arrogance must not blind us to her real greatness. In the realms of art, literature, music, philosophy and pure science, the whole world is under infinite obligation to her. And there are things more exclusively German which are worthy of unstinted admiration. This people's untiring industry, for instance, their prodigious thoroughness, their unbounded belief in knowledge; and

their systematic treatment of great economic, industrial and social problems. Think, too, of the great industries they have built up during the last forty years, the canals and railways which they have made, their mercantile marine and also the splendid towns which have come into existence in recent times.

Cleanliness reigns almost everywhere, and, except in the large centres of population, luxury is almost unknown. Cheerfulness, warm-hearted hospitality, and an amazing thrift characterize the whole nation, and the Southern German (unlike the Prussian) is charmingly affable. The system of secondary education is almost the most complete in the world. There are elements of real national greatness, of which the Germans may justly be proud, and which other peoples would do well to admire and imitate.

Mr. Brereton then turns to the national weaknesses. He accounts for the dogmatic cocksureness of the people by the one-sidedness of their education. In discussing any subject with a North-German, the latter in his ignorance has invariably claimed to be totally in the right. The iron discipline of school makes it a purgatory for the average boy, while to dull and stupid children it is often a veritable hell, driving hundreds into actual suicide. Owing to the submission to authority rigorously exacted from all the people, every official in the land, down to the humblest postman appears to suffer from chronic swelled head. Germany is really a huge farm, run on highly scientific principles. The people are as well looked after as the prize sheep and cattle on up-to-date farms. But they no more run the country than the pedigree stock runs the farm. They are controlled from above and not by themselves. They dare not criticize their own Government, and they are surrounded by a Chinese wall of ignorance and conceit which cuts them off from foreign criticism.

"Nothing but a crushing and shattering defeat," says Mr. Brereton, "can bring them to their senses, and allow spiritual Germany, immured as it is to-day in the nethermost dungeons of Prussian Realpolitik, once more to emerge."

I am, etc.,

G. W. P. K.

Shanghai, Jan. 7.

CLARKE'S WORLD-FAMED BLOOD MIXTURE. — "The most searching Blood Cleanser that science and medical skill have brought to light." Sufferers from Scrofula, Scurvy, Eczema, Bad Legs, Skin and Blood Diseases, Pimples, and Sores of any kind are solicited to give it a trial to test its value. Thousands of wonderful cures have been effected by it. Sold everywhere at 2s. 9d. per bottle. Beware of worthless imitations and substitutes. — ADVT.

MISCELLANEOUS.

PRESIDENTIAL MANDATES.

Peking, Dec. 28.

By order of the President:—

(1) The Ministry of Education reports that Wu Hsing, member of the gentry in the district of Shanghai in Kiangsu, has contributed funds for the development of learning and requests the bestowal of some special distinction, according to custom, etc.

The said member of the gentry is truly very public-spirited and has benefited the cause of education appreciably in establishing a school for girls, contributing property valued at over \$90,000 to that school, and transferring title to that school to the District. He is hereby given the Chiaho Decoration of the 3rd class and a tablet of eulogy. Further, he is given the Chiaho Decoration of the 1st class as a mark of our special appreciation and an incentive for others to follow his example.

(2) The Tsanchengyuan, acting in the capacity of the Lifayuan, after having been in session for four months has its session prolonged for two months. As the term of its sitting is now expired, I, the President, hereby declare the House closed, in accordance with the provision made in Article 17 of the Provisional Constitution.

(3) In reference to a memorial from Tuan Shu-yun, reporting the result of his investigation into the case in which Wen Ting-hsiang, Manager of the Branch Mint in Hupeh, was denounced by a Censor for having practised corruption and thereby damaged the currency system, etc.

Although the said manager is found to have committed not all the offences for which he was denounced, he has not been as strictly honest and careful in doing his duties as becomes a manager of a Mint. Moreover, he has not submitted any previous report with regard to the decrease in the standard weight of the copper coin, and the minting of silver coins for his own account, though the profit derived from both items was credited to the Government. His action was not quite in conformity with the rules and regulations of the Mint. Wen Ting-hsiang is hereby referred to the High Civil Officials' Penalty Commission for a penalty. Let the Ministry of Finance take note of this.

Peking, Dec. 29.

By order of the President:—

(1) The Amended Presidential Election Law, passed by the Constitutional Conference, is hereby promulgated.

Education for All.

Peking, Jan. 1.

(11) A lengthy Mandate urging upon the nation the great importance of educating the people. It says that owing to the internal turmoil following upon the revolution and the inauguration of the Republic, the Government had not had time to devote much attention to this question. Now, the nation is comparatively at rest, the moral culture and the general education of the people should be taken in hand at once. The aim should be to make education within the reach of all classes. With this object in view, the President suggests two foremost steps to be taken, namely, the training of as many schoolmasters as possible and the compilation of suitable lesson books. He also considers it advisable to fix the period of primary or elementary education at four years as the minimum time during which every child should attend school as in duty bound, although he has not much faith in the citizens' understanding of their duty in such affairs.

Another Amnesty.

(12) On May 3 last year, an order was issued exonerating those persons who had blindly followed the rebels in their rising in Kiangsi and Nanking but who had shown repentance. This was done to give all such persons a chance to begin a new life. Afterwards, many of them returned home, pursuing a peaceful avocation, but there are still others leading a wandering life, with no means of sustenance, and separated from their loving families, which are uncertain whether they are alive or dead. These persons are also the tender children of the nation and the majority of them are young men having been misled into errors of a moment to the utter blasting of their whole lives. Their case is really worthy our compassion when considered from points of reason and logic. I, the President, having accepted the great trust from the nation, wish to protect our people. The more homeless persons there are in our country, the more shall I feel conscience-stricken. Four years have passed since the revolution. Cases of internal strife and external complications have cropped up daily without cessation, and have been overcome with much difficulty, leaving me no time for rest. I am willing to bear the brunt of the position of the utmost delicacy with my single body provided I can, in so doing, promote the happiness of our people. I am willing to tolerate whatever is beneficial to the nation. At the beginning of another year, I will promulgate an Order granting a special pardon to all rebel followers who surrender themselves to the Government; and a set of rules of procedure which should prove practical.

cable has been framed. All persons who supported the rebellion should bear in mind, that as the national foundation is but newly laid and as a storm of gale and rain is brewing, this is surely not the time for members of the same family to fight each other. As they have strayed not very far from the path, it would not be difficult for them to retrace their steps. As to the territorial officials, they should divine the desire of the Government to begin a fresh chapter of life with the people and carry out this Order in good earnest. All persons who have surrendered themselves in good faith and received pardon shall be regarded the same as other common people without the least discrimination.

(13) The Order granting an amnesty to all followers of rebels who surrender themselves in hereby, promulgated.

Stock Exchange.

(14) The Stock Exchange Law, passed by the Tsanchengyuan, is hereby promulgated.

Local Government.

(15) The rules and regulations in connexion with the experimental adoption of local self-government, passed by the Tsanchengyuan, are hereby promulgated.

Naval Manœuvres.

(16) The rules and regulations governing the holding of naval manœuvres are hereby promulgated.

Salt Smuggling.

(17) The rules and regulations for the prevention of smuggling salt are hereby promulgated.

(18) The rules and regulations governing the encouragement and punishment of officers in the salt-smuggling prevention service are hereby promulgated.

(19) The rules and regulations governing the encouragement and punishment of territorial officials in respect of their assistance in the administration of salt affairs are hereby promulgated.

Peking, Jan. 3.

By order of the President:—

(1) The request by Jen Ko-cheng Governor of Yunnan, submitted by the Ministry of Home Affairs, that Tang Chi-yu be appointed Chief of the Constabulary Force for the Capital of Yunnan, is hereby granted, Huang Yu-lan, the former Chief, having been permitted to relinquish his post owing to illness.

(2) The request by the Ministry of Finance to appoint Liang Chi-hsin as Official Superintendent of the Bank of China is hereby sanctioned, the former Official Superintendent Chen Wei-yen's resignation on the ground of ill-health having been accepted.

FROM THE CHINESE PRESS.

Jan. 1.

Corporal Punishment.

The question of restoring corporal punishment to some extent has been passed by the Administrative Council. The punishment with the bamboo may be applied in lieu of imprisonment of the 4th and 5th degrees, detention for labour, and the imposition of a fine (but the number of strokes administered shall, in no case, exceed 120), on persons aged from 16 to 60, who have been guilty of adultery, gambling, obtaining money by fraud, or being engaged in improper occupations or businesses.

The Imperial Household.

The Government and the Imperial Manchu Household have concluded an understanding embodied in seven articles as follow:—

(1) The Ching House should respect the laws of the Republic and abolish all that clashes with such laws.

(2) The Ching House should adopt the Gregorian Calendar.

(3) The Ching Emperor should limit his favours to material presents, and the bestowal of posthumous titles, honours, and compensation should be discontinued.

(4) The Imperial Mausoleums should be placed under the control of the Ministry of Home Affairs.

(5) The Board of Imperial Household should be re-constituted.

(6) The Imperial Court of Justice should be abolished.

(7) The officials appointed by the Ching House should wear the dress of the Republic.

The etiquette and ceremonies in vogue at the Imperial Court itself, as well as the removal of the queue, are left to the individual taste of each person without interference.

Indemnities for Losses during Revolutions.

Mr. Yang Cheng, Taoyin of Shanghai, has addressed a despatch to the Consular Body, informing them that he has been instructed by the Waichiaopu in the effect that as the claims for indemnity to cover losses suffered during the revolution in 1911 were only acceptable up to December 31, 1913, so a final date should be fixed for accepting the claims with reference to the losses occurring during the disturbance of last year, so as to facilitate the course of investigation as well as to accelerate the conclusion of the task of indemnifying the losers. He then states that it is proposed to fix the date for closing the acceptance of claims as January 31 next, and requests

the Consuls to notify their colleagues at the outposts of this decision. He also adds that with regard to those claims already in his hands, he has been ordered to report to the Government the result of his investigations as soon as possible.

Critical Situation in Singkiang.

The price of food-stuffs, reports a Tihua telegram, has appreciated very considerably this year. A bale of barley, weighing over 300 catties, which cost only Tls. 5 last year, cannot be bought now for much less than Tls. 20. Articles of all kinds are extremely dear also. The secret society men are rampant and active everywhere. Altogether, a very critical situation has arisen in the province of Singkiang.

The Presidential Election Law.

A special telegram to the "China Times," gives the following summary of important points in the amended law governing the election of the President:—

(1) A male citizen of 40 or above, having lived in this country twenty years, is qualified to be elected.

(2) The term of office is ten years, but a President is eligible for re-election.

(3) At the time of election, the President in office has the right to recommend three persons, as successors; he writes with his own hand the names of three persons on a golden paper with the design of the "excellent corn," affixes his seal on it, puts it secretly in a golden cabinet, and places the cabinet in a stone room in the President's Palace. The key of the cabinet is kept by the President, but the keys of the stone-room are kept by the President, the Speaker of the Tsanchengyuan, and the Secretary of State.

(4) The Election Commission to be composed of fifty members from each of the Two Houses, the voting paper to bear the names of both the nominee and the voter, and the one getting the greatest number of votes to be elected. The election is to be held under the supervision of the Minister of Home Affairs. If the election should take place at a time when the Lifayuan is not in session, then fifty members who happen to be in Peking and whose names are foremost shall serve the purpose.

(5) The Election Commission shall be assembled by an order of the President, and formed three days prior to the date fixed in that order. The election hall shall be at the Tsanchengyuan, whose Speaker shall be Chairman of the Election.

(6) The President in office may also be nominated.

(7) Three-fourths of the members present shall form a quorum, and

anyone securing two-thirds of the votes shall be elected.

(8) During an election, if the Tsanchengyuan think it necessary for political considerations that the President should hold office for another term, two-thirds of that body's votes shall be sufficient for the President's re-election.

(9) If the President vacates the office for some reason or another, the Vice-President shall act as President, and if he vacates office at the same time, the Secretary shall officiate as President.

(10) Whoever is elected shall take an oath to respect the Provisional Constitution.

(11) The Vice-President shall be recommended either by the re-elected President or his successor.

The despatch of the Tsanchengyuan states that having considered the virtuous abdication which took place in very ancient times between Tang and Yu (Emperors Yao and Shên), and the recent abdication by the Manchu House, as well as the practice obtaining in the United States and Mexico, the House has come to the conclusion that no expedient can surpass the perfection of the plan of recommendation which it has adopted.

Jan. 4.

News From the Capital.

From official circles, it is learnt that Sun Yat-sen is establishing a President's Office in Japan, with Tien Tung and Cheu Cheng as Grand Secretaries, Tien also assuming the title of "Generalissimo." An election of provincial chiefs is being held at that office now.

Mr. Wang Kai-yun, President of the National History Compilation Bureau, has sent in his resignation in determined tones. The Government is considering which of the two, Fang Tseng-hsiang or Kang Yu-wei, shall be appointed to succeed him.

The Urga Hutuktu has agreed to discard the title of emperor, proposing to assume that of Pok Khan which in Chinese would still mean the "Saintly King," which the Government cannot recognize as a fitting title. The Mongol Chief will be asked to call himself Pok Hutuktu which should satisfy his vanity.

The President has found that, regarding the work done by the different departments of the Government during the past year or two, the Waichiaopu and the Ministry of Finance have achieved the most successful results. He proposes to confer upon the two Ministers the First Order of Merit.

The total amount of salt revenue collected this year is approximately \$70,000,000. But from this amount, have to be deducted \$10,000,000 to cover the depreciation of paper

money in Kuangtung, Szechuan, Hunan and other provinces, over \$8,000,000 for expenditure in collecting the revenue, and over \$2,000,000 not yet remitted to Peking by the provinces of Kueichow and Yunnan, thus leaving \$47,900,000 as the amount actually received by the Central Government or accounted for.

The Peking Constabulary has, by order of the Minister of Home Affairs, relaxed the enforcement of the gambling prohibition in the first-class brothels owing to the New Year felicitations.

Suppression of Seditious Literature.

The local civil, military and police authorities have been very energetic in suppressing the sale of books and novels published by the rebel party, as already reported. The following is a translated summary of the original order they have received from the Civil Governor of Kiangsu:—

A telegraphic order has been received from the Headquarters of the Generalissimo, to the effect that the rebel party has put in circulation a booklet entitled "Wan Ying Chih Chiu Fang" or "Absolutely efficacious means of salvation in any emergency," the suppression of which has already been ordered. It is reported that the said party has revised the contents and changed its title and made several other disguises, such as books called "The New Patriotic Song," "The New Four-Books for both Sexes," "The Resuscitation of the Republic," etc., in all of which, the same system has been adopted, that, namely, of devoting the first part to reviling and falsely accusing the Government with six shortcomings, and filling the latter part with injunctions for the eleven classes of people to rise in revolution. Care should be taken to forbid their sale and perusal as they are identical with the book in "salvation in every way." Also, "The Spring and Autumn History of the Republic," compiled by the rebel party, shall be suppressed at the same time. In pursuance of the above order, I have to instruct you again to obey and carry it out forthwith.

The "Shunpao" comments on the above action of the Government very deprecatingly. It calls attention to the prevalent habit of the belligerents fighting one another with pen and ink in addition to their military strength, each exposing his enemy to be in the wrong and vindicating his own right. "Recently, our revolutionaries and our Government are fighting each other by means of 'belle lettres.'" Although the revolutionaries have published books to the discredit of the Government, yet the Government has by way of retaliation, reproduced "The Little History of Sun Wen," "Sun Wen, the

Traitor," and some other books in order to expose his wickedness and sin. But what good could such a manifestation of ill-feeling on both sides do to the country?

Robbers and Murderers.

In connexion with the robbery committed at a wine shop and a general goods shop in the French Concession Extension some time ago, eight robbers, including a woman were, after trial at the French Mixed Court, handed to the Military Governor at the Arsenal for punishment. They were tried again by the Military Court there, and five of them were sentenced to death by shooting, while the remaining two men and one woman were remanded in custody. The sentence having been confirmed by Field-Marshal Feng of Nanking, Teng Teh-piao, Shen Yu-piao, Chang Lao-san, Li Yu-tien, and Chang Chi-chen were executed at 3 p.m. on December 30 in front of the West Fort at the Arsenal, the French Police being present to witness the execution.

With reference to the double-murder of a Chinese doctor named Chen Yung-fang and his woman-servant Chu Chou-shi, some months ago in the French Concession, Tung Chao-kuei and Po Ah-kuei, the two murderers who were apprehended and handed to the City Court for trial, were sentenced to death by strangulation at 4 p.m. on December 30. The sentence will be carried out as soon as it is approved and confirmed by the Ministry of Justice, to which a full report of the case has been sent.

Equitable Treatment of Chinese Merchants.

Mr. Yang Cheng, Taoyin of Shanghai, some time ago forwarded a petition from the Chinese merchants to the Central Government on the subject of the unequal treatment meted out to Chinese merchants with regard to the duration of the validity of the Customs' Pass issued to them. They complained that while passes issued to foreigners do not become invalid until three years have elapsed from the date of their issue, those issued to them can only run one year, after which they become null and void. They pointed out that such treatment was not equitable, to say the least. On December 30 the sanction of the Peking Government was received to the proposal that in future passes issued to Chinese merchants shall also be valid for three years.

Burning of Opium.

Mr. Wang, Procurator-General of Shanghai, having invited a number of officials and others representing various interests to witness the incident, ordered his officers to produce quantities of opium weigh-

ing altogether over 8,000 ounces, and articles used for opium-smoking which had been confiscated and stored in his yamén, for his own inspection and check. These were then conveyed and piled up in the main court-yard in the yamén (which was formerly that of the Shanghai magistrate). After saturating them with kerosene, the opium and utensils were set on fire before a large concourse of onlookers.

Jan. 8.

Foreign Customs Men Attacked.

The Canton Maritime Customs has reported to the Government that the foreign officers of the Kungpei Customs were assaulted by smugglers, and that one officer was seriously injured and one missing; the latter may have died.

Sleeping Cars in the North.

The International Sleeping Car Co. has suggested to the Ministry of Communications that it should run its cars on the Peking-Mukden Railway, and enclosed a draft agreement for the Government's consideration.

Dalai Lama's Peace Proposal.

The Government has received a telegram from Darjeeling, reporting the arrival of Lama Kao, Envoy of Dalai Lama, at the yamén of the Szechuan Frontier Governor, bearing a despatch from the Tibetan Chief.

In his despatch, the Dalai Lama expresses the desire that China should send an official to confer with his Government in order to secure lasting peace on the line of respecting each other's boundary lines and refraining from making any further armed incursion into each other's territory. He dilates upon the ravages done by Chinese troops in Tibet, who looted the property of the Tibetans and destroyed or desecrated Tibetan monasteries and temples, thereby incurring the hatred of his people.

Taxation of White Title-Deeds.

A proclamation has been issued by the Prefect of Shanghai to the following effect:—

On December 28, the Chief Financial Secretary of Kiangsu telegraphs that it has received a telegram from the Ministry of Finance instructing the provinces that, in reference to the examination of title-deeds, the exemption of white title-deeds (title-deeds which bear a crimson seal of the district prefect as proof of the payment of the tax are called the "red title-deeds," and those without that seal are called the white title-deeds.) from taxation should be stopped, and that on and after January 1, 1915, all white title-deeds shall be taxed according to the tariff, and the payment of a fee simply for examination of the same shall not exempt them from such tax. Title-deeds not yet submitted for ex-

amination shall be charged double fees for examination and registration for over time, whilst the white title-deeds which have been examined and exempted from paying the tax already will be regarded as valid without being called upon to make good the tax so exempted.

The Dyeing Profession.

Formerly, in dyeing silk and cloth, Chinese indigo alone was used. The best quality came from Fatsan, Chaoyang and other districts in Kuangtung, and that produced in Fuyang district in Ché-kiang and Luping district in Kiangsi was said to be also good. Since 1900, the local dyers have gradually used foreign indigo owing to its comparative cheapness, until at last the native produce was entirely ousted from the market.

Since the outbreak of the European war, the source from which the foreign stuff is imported has been cut off, and in consequence its price has risen very rapidly until at present it is thought by the dyeing profession to be prohibitive. As reported before, some agitation was manifested amongst the local dyers and meetings were held by them and by those interested in the indigo business to discuss the situation. It is stated that nothing can be done to lower the price, as the stock is very low, in fact, almost depleted.

Mr. Yang Chia-ti, Chairman of the Shanghai Dyeing Association, has found by investigation that at this port alone, the yearly sale of foreign indigo has amounted to 350,000 casks, and the sale through Hongkong contracted for the five provinces, Kuangtung, Kuangsi, Yunnan, Kueichow and Fukien, amounted to about 20,000 casks. He estimates that the total consumption of foreign indigo in China has cost this country the large amount of Tls. 16,000,000 per year.

As the present would be a good opportunity to expand the market for native products and develop native trade of every kind, he has submitted a petition to the Taoyin of Shanghai for retransmission to the provincial authorities and the Peking Government, suggesting that all district prefects should be instructed to encourage the cultivation of indigo on plots of land whereon poppy was grown before, with the object of reviving one of China's lost industries.

Admiral Tseng.

Admiral Tseng Ju-cheng, who enjoys the fullest confidence of the Central Government, since he suppressed the rebellion of 1913, has run many a rebel to earth, given adequate protection to the people and defended the district all successfully. At the end of the year just elapsed, he received a telegram from the

President summoning him to Peking for a personal conference. Admiral Tseng considers that this is not the time for him to be away, as defensive measures are being strongly maintained, while the Arsenal is just resuming its activity in several departments. Upon representing his views to the President, he has received permission to postpone his departure for the Capital to a more propitious time.

Jan. 7.

Estimated Budget.

A Peking telegram states that according to the estimated budget for the fourth year of the Republic (1915), the total amount of income and expenditure is reckoned at over \$445,190,000 each. The principal items constituting the income are: Land tax, \$71,370,000; taxes on salt and tea, \$69,940,000; Customs duties, \$47,960,000; likin, \$86,360,000; miscellaneous revenues, \$11,780,000; receipts from Government property and industry, \$27,550,000; public loans of \$44,000,000 will have to be raised to make up the deficiency in income.

Preparations for Rainy Days.

At the end of last year, a circular telegram was addressed by the Government to all the provincial governors and financial secretaries, containing words to the following effect:—

Ever since the outburst of the European conflagration, danger has been lurking around us on all sides. Foreign obligations have had to be discharged not a moment later, whilst Customs receipts have decreased more and more every day. Coupled with the rising rate of exchange in favour of the gold pound, we have had to make increasing disbursements while facing a shrinkage in our incomes. Fortunately, with the loyal co-operation of both our Peking and provincial officials, we have, with the exception of some \$40,000,000 on account of small loans which could not be wholly repaid, paid off all large foreign debts which fell due this year to the last cent, really not thought possible at first. In view of the fact that from next year (1915), the amortization of the foreign loans will begin, our disbursements will be thereby increased very considerably. Hence the necessity of devising means to meet these obligations; for as long as the European war lasts, ambitious persons will watch for and seize an opportunity to grasp the power of directing our financial administration, thereby sucking dry our fat and marrow, and forever depriving us, as a nation, of any hope to recover our wonted greatness. The governors and the financial secretaries should each exert his utmost in developing the resources of his province and rais-

ing as much money as the conditions of the locality may permit. They should work hard and fear nothing; they need not be bound by "red tape" formalities, provided advantageous progress can be made in their work as indicated above for the consolidation of the country.

Then the Government says that it is well aware of the financial stringency in the provinces, as well as the extremely hard lot of the people, and it would be very glad to reduce taxes and levies so as to afford the people some rest. But as this is a time of "life and death" for the country which cannot be supported without funds, the Government is obliged to choose the lesser of the two evils.

The Business Tax.

With regard to the imposition of a tax on certain special kinds of business, the Chinese General Chamber of Commerce and the Nantao Chamber submitted a joint petition to the Taoyin and the Prefect of Shanghai some time ago, asking for its withdrawal, or failing that, for a postponement in enforcing this imposition, on the ground that the district of Shanghai has not yet recovered its vitality since the disturbances of 1911 and 1913. Their petition was forwarded to the Finance Secretary at Nanking and the Ministry of Finance. A telegraphic reply has been received from the Ministry of Finance, stating that as the Specified Business Taxation has been inaugurated in all other provinces, Kiangsu cannot alone be the exception. However, the period for its inauguration which has already expired, will be overlooked, but the arrangements for the imposition of this tax must be completed within the month of January, 1915, at every place in that province. The Chambers of Commerce are requested to notify all merchants of this decision.

The Destination Tax.

In connexion with the attempt of the Government to introduce what is termed the "destination tax" to be levied on foreign imported goods upon reaching the place for consumption, the Chinese merchants have shown their disapproval everywhere, inasmuch as they rightly contend that this would place them at a great disadvantage to foreign and Chinese merchants trading in foreign settlements, where the Chinese Government has no power to enforce this tax, and would ultimately result in their being ruined. The Ministry of Finance, in answer to their protest, has agreed to the temporary suspension of this tax, and a telegram to this effect was received here on Monday.

Customs' "Passes" for Native Exports.

The Shuiwuchu has addressed a despatch to the Ministry of Finance and Ministry of Agriculture and Commerce on the above subject. It says that the Shanghai Chinese General Chamber of Commerce has petitioned the Shuiwuchu that hitherto the "passes" obtained from the Customs for the export of native cargoes were all limited for use within one year; but since war broke out in Europe, no shipping company has been willing to accept cargoes for export, while the term of all the "passes" obtained has expired or is about to expire; and that in such extraordinary circumstances, an extension of the term is earnestly requested, etc.

The request appears reasonable, the Bureau of Taxes referred the petition to the Inspector-General for opinion, and the latter asked the Commissioner of the Shanghai Customs to report on the matter. Upon the Commissioner's suggestion, the term of "passes" covering certain native goods for export to foreign countries, in which cases it would be impossible or difficult to practice fraud in the opinion of the Commissioner, has been extended for another year. A list of these goods is given. Passes on goods not on the list or goods not for export to other countries will not be permitted this privilege.

Jan. 8.

Opium in the French concession.

Since the closing of the opium divans in the French Concession in 1909, the number of shops licensed for the sale of prepared opium has increased considerably. A resolution was passed by the French Municipal Council some time during last year, authorizing the curtailment of the business of such shops; and as a result of this decision, no more licences will be issued for any new opium shop to do business in that Concession from January 1 of this year.

Rebel Plotting in Szechuan.

It has been discovered that the rebel party has been buying and sending arms from Shanghai to Szechuan with the hope of effecting a rising in that province on December 25 last. A batch of rebels transporting arms was detected by some military officers under General Nyi of Anhui, who succeeded in capturing three of the gang. The rebel party's plot was revealed by the prisoners, and General Nyi has telegraphed to General Hu of Szechuan, warning him of this danger, and to all the provinces on the Yangtze, asking them to take precautions and discover the leaders.

The Sugar Industry.

A proclamation has been issued by the Prefect of Shanghai, urging

the people to develop the country's sugar industry. The initial suggestion was made by the Ministry of Agriculture and Commerce, which has received the sanction of the President. A warning is also given that the gold of this country will be drained by the consumption of such immense quantities of imported sugar from year to year, if Chinese continue to view this industry at home with their usual apathy and indifference. The European struggle is likewise pointed to as offering a good opportunity for the Chinese to develop both the cultivation of sugar cane and beet, and the manufacture of improved types of white and brown sugar by machinery. Some rules are published for the furtherance of this object, embodying the following principles:—

(1) A manufacturer of sugar shall petition the Ministry of Agriculture and Commerce, defining a certain area within which he will raise or collect raw materials which shall be limited to two products, namely, sugar cane and beet.

(2) Two or more sugar factories will not be allowed to be established within the same area.

(3) The sugar produced at such sugar factories by machinery shall be subject to inspection and examination by the authorities.

(4) All sugar manufacturers already working in the Republic shall obtain the post-sanction of the Ministry of Agriculture and Commerce within the Fourth Year of the Republic (1915.)

RAILWAYS AND THE PAPER HUNT.

HOW THE NEW BRANCH LINE AFFECTS RIDERS.

With the opening of the new junction connecting the terminal stations of the Shanghai-Nanking and Shanghai-Hangchow railways, a very interesting question arises as to what effect it will have upon future hunts in that particular country.

Looking at the question from the huntsman's point of view, the construction of the railway cannot but be regretted, for although the actual line does not interfere to any great extent with the existing jumps, etc., it unquestionably means that in time to come those interested in hunting will have to go much further afield for their sport.

Old Jumps Not Touched.

From present indications, the new line will branch off the Shanghai-Hangchow railway some distance south of the Lunghua station, and will pass to the south of the powder factory, and through the new country which is being used to a large extent for hunting. That it will not seriously affect the hunts is at once seen when it is pointed out that the

line will skirt, as closely as possible, the boundaries of the Settlement. Here are situated quite a large number of Chinese market gardens, which are carefully avoided by hunters who ride over the more open fields. The line will then pass close to a point where so many hunts start in the pagoda country, but the line of jumps known as Observatory Line will not be affected in any way. It will cross the Arsenal Creek at this point and stretch straight across the Great South Road, leading to Sungkiang and Hangchow, reaching the Sicawei Creek between Brooklyn Bridge and Mayne's Bungalow, passing round by the creek at the bottom of Perrott's Line, the jumps of which are not at all affected.

Cutting diagonally through the creeks, which in this part of the hunting country run more or less parallel in an easterly and westerly direction, the line will reach the Hungjao Road at a point near the first milestone.

Pushing Out the Hunt

From here, the line will go straight across country to the neighbourhood of St. John's College, at Jessfield, passing the well-known landmark Badger Firs and the Fahwa Creek near Sankingmiao, crossing the Jessfield Road in the vicinity of the new park. This bit of country contains but few jumps, and consists chiefly of long stretches of low lying land.

Of course, the new railway, as a whole, together with the new roads constructed in this district, will still further cut up the country, so that, as we have already pointed out, hunting will necessarily have to move further out from year to year. In fact the old stretch of country, lying between the Fahwa Creek and Bubbling Well, which was formerly hunted over a great deal, is now scarcely used at all, although within the memory of many a present resident of Shanghai the district of Fahwa was at one time considered a very long way to go for hunting.

French Country Opened Up.

Generally speaking, the hunting country nowadays consists of the big stretch of country on the right of Hungjao Road as far as the Rubicon Creek, known as the Home country, the district on the south of that road known as the Hungjao country, and the country west of the Rubicon Creek, and all the country which has come into much favour during the past two or three years, and generally spoken of as the French or Pagoda country. Up till recently but one run was known, which included the long line of little jumps called Jim's Joys, but through the labours of a few pioneers in hunting, this country has been opened up to such an extent that last year no less than five different hunts took place in different portions of it.

THE BEST BRITISH WRITERS ON THE WAR.

SOME WONDERFUL ARTICLES FROM THE "HIBBERT JOURNAL."

One of the finest apologies for Britain's part in the present war is to be found in the pages of the current—that is, for the Far East the October—number of the "Hibbert Journal." There will be many readers of Shanghai papers who will not be able to see the "Hibbert Journal." For their sake the following summary of four of the papers is written by one who would hasten to add that the summary is but a poor substitute for the articles—all who can, should get this particular number.

No less than eight of the articles treat on the war. First, and deservedly first, comes what was probably the last contribution to magazine literature of the late Earl Roberts. He writes on "The Supreme Duty of the Citizen at the Present Crisis." Sir Henry Jones, who writes from the University of Glasgow, has for his theme "Why Are We Fighting?" Professor Murray of Oxford has "Thoughts on the War." In the midst of the articles comes one from the best of all the writers in the "Hibbert Journal" the Editor, W. L. Jacks, who heads his article "Mechanism, Diabolism and the War." There are also articles on "the Ethics of War" (by Dr. Diggle, the Bishop of Carlisle); "Literature and Politics in Modern Germany," "German Philosophy and the Present Crisis" and "the Philosopher of the 'Will to Power'" with the sub-title, "Nietzsche on Love and Pity" by W. Mackintire Salter who writes from Silver Lake, New Hampshire. This last is one of the most sympathetic articles on Nietzsche I have seen. But while it modifies, it does not nullify the effect that such sayings of Nietzsche as are now frequently quoted, must have had on his readers.

Lord Roberts on Duty.

Earl Roberts plunges at once into his subject: "There is but one duty for the British citizen at the present time—men and women, young and old, rich and poor, all alike must place everything at the service of the State. Nothing must be kept back—time, energy, money, talent, even life itself, must be freely offered in this supreme crisis." He closes with the words "Two years ago, at a crowded meeting in Manchester, I said to my fellow-countrymen: 'Arm and prepare to quit yourselves like men, for the time of your ordeal is at hand.' I claim a hearing, therefore, when I say to-

day: 'Arm and quit yourselves like men, for the time of your ordeal has come.'"

There is an excellent account of the causes of the war, which also starts with a plain statement: "I maintain unreservedly that the conflict has been forced upon us by the action of the Pan-German advisers of the German Emperor." The conclusion is "No nation which has been constrained to draw the sword could wish for a better cause than is here set down" (i.e., than the two reasons given by Mr. Asquith in a speech on August 6: "If I am asked what we are fighting for, I can reply in two sentences. In the first place, to fulfil an honourable obligation. . . Secondly, we are fighting to vindicate the principle that small nationalities are not to be crushed in defiance of international good faith, by the arbitrary will of a strong and overmastering Power.")

The British Army's Pride.

No one had more right than Lord Roberts to make the following claim, a claim which might easily be smiled at as utterly bombastical, but before any non-British reader dismisses the claim let him remember the part that Lord Roberts himself played in the three striking instances he cites in proof:

"We may claim on behalf of the British Army, that it has the wonderful faculty of fighting antagonists without making enemies. It may, indeed, be maintained that British soldiers fight in such a noble way that the enemies whom they vanquish become their friends. Let me give examples to illustrate my meaning. When I went to India in 1852, three years only had elapsed since our last campaign against the Sikhs; when the Mutiny broke out only five years later, the Sikhs fought on our side against the mutineers. In 1855, the Afghans, against whom we had fought hard only five years earlier, were ready to take the field with us against the Russians. The Dutch in South Africa, headed by generals who fought against us quite recently, are now fighting on our side."

One further word from our veteran warrior is worthy of the widest circulation:

"When we read charges against the German troops, let us remember that gross charges, absolutely untrue, were brought against our own brave soldiers fighting in South Africa. But whether the charges are true or not, let us keep our own hands clean, and let us fight against the Germans in such a way as to earn their liking as well as their respect."

Britain's Emerging.

Sir Henry Jones admits that the past history of England is far from spotless: "It was not by converting the heathen that we acquired their lands" (the writer might have added "except in the case of Fiji," for their acquisition was not merely

post, it was also *propter* conversion).

"We have been as ruthless, and we have been as ready to plead 'the rights of a higher civilization over a lower,' as the German people are to-day. At the very best we are only just emerging from that materialistic imperialism which, fortunately for the world, had not a Hohenzollern Emperor for its main exponent. . . . What right have we, it may be asked, to condemn the German nation? . . . I answer that our right, such as it is, springs from the fact that we are emerging. We are learning to respect the rights of small nations and, seeking little by little, to nurse into liberty all the peoples over whom we rule. Helped most of all at first by the American Revolutionists and the portentous stupidity of George the Third and his ministers, we have come to believe it possible that the strongest bonds of empire are forged by freedom, and that there is a liberty which makes men loyal."

There follows a closely reasoned and well-expressed statement of the fact that Germany is not emerging from the errors we formerly held.

"Our neighbours through their very strength and excellence, have been tempted to challenge the ancient self-forgetting ways of the servants of the good. They have taken the sacred things of the moral law, the vessels of the temple and drunk wine in them; they have subdued the things of the spirit to the service of material ends, and enthroned the will to power in the place of charity—praising the gods of silver and gold, of brass, iron, wood and stone, which see not, nor hear, nor know." The righteousness which is like the everlasting mountains has taken up the challenge, and we are even now witnessing the coming of judgement."

Union Produced by War.

Professor Murray's "Thoughts on the War" are well worth reading.

(1). The union between Unionists and Home Rulers, Capitalists and Working men, Colonials and the Home Country. . . . "and India above all!"

(2). The heroism with which the ordinary men and women are giving themselves to the cause of the nation: "A friend of mine heard the words of one French woman to another who was seeing her husband's train off to the front: '*Ne pleurez pas, il vous voit encore*'" ('Don't cry, he can still see you').

(3). "We are fighting for . . . something even more than the Right. For our lives, for England, for the liberty of western Europe, for the possibility of peace and friendship between nations; for something which we should rather die than lose."

(4). "Yet I have scarcely met a single person who seems to hate the Germans."

No one had anticipated that the nightmare doctrines of Bismarck, and Nietzsche and Bernhardt would be actually enforced by official orders. "Cause to non-combatants the maximum of suffering: leave the women and the children nothing but their eyes to weep with." We thought they said these things to startle and shock us; and it now appears that some of them meant what they had said. Still we must not hate the German people. Who knows how many secret acts of

mercy, mercy at risk of life and against orders, were done at Louvain and Dinant? Germans are not demons: they are naturally kind and good people. And they will wake from their evil dream."

(5). "Never again!" "We seek no territory, no aggrandisement, no revenge; we only want to be safe from the recurrence of this present horror. We want permanent peace for Europe and freedom for each nation."

Liberty Then and Now.

(6). A "look back at the records of the Congress of 1815, at the end of the last great war of allied Europe against a military despotism." "Castlereagh, the English representative, concentrated his efforts upon two great objects. The first, which he just failed to obtain, owing chiefly to difficulties about Turkey, was a really effective and fully armed Concert of Europe. . . . The second object, which he succeeded in gaining, was, curiously enough, an international declaration of the abolition of the slave trade." The leaders of the Congress were "Castlereagh, Metternich, Talleyrand, Alexander of Russia and Frederick William of Prussia. . . . not names to rouse enthusiasm nowadays. All except Talleyrand were confessed enemies of freedom and enlightenment and almost everything that we regard as progressive. . . . Yet after all, they were more or less reasonable human beings, and a bitter experience had educated them. . . . We find these men at the end of the Great War fixing their minds not on glory and prestige and revenge, not on conventions and shams, but on ideals so great and true and human and simple that most Englishmen in ordinary life are ashamed of mentioning them."

(7). "Our next conference of Europe ought to do far better. . . . Instead of Castlereagh we shall send from England some one like Mr. Asquith or Sir Edward Grey, with ten times more progressive and liberal feeling and ten times more insight and understanding. . . . Instead of Talleyrand, France will send one of her many able Republican leaders, from Clemenceau to Delcassé, certainly more honest and humane than Talleyrand."

Nations Sick of War.

And Germany, who can say? Except that it may be some one very different from these militarist schemers who have brought their country to ruin. In any case it is likely to be a wiser man than Frederick William, just as Russia is bound to send a wiser man than Alexander.

"In 1815 the nations were sick of war after long fighting. I doubt if there was any widespread conviction that war was in itself an abomination and an outrage on humanity. . . . But now such a feeling is almost universal. It commands a majority in any third class railway carriage; it is expressed almost as a matter of course in any average newspaper. . . . In 1914 it is not that we happen to be

sick of war; it is that we mean to extirpate war out of the normal possibilities of civilized life, as we have extirpated leprosy and typhus."

(8). "What kind of settlement can we hope to attain at the end of it all? . . . First of all, no revenge, no deliberate humiliation of any enemy, no picking and stealing. Next, a dramatic resettlement of all these burning problems which carry in them the seeds of European war, especially the problems of territory."

(9). There is a danger in every war: "An atmosphere tends to grow up in which the militarist and the schemer are at home and the liberal and democrat homeless."

(To be Continued.)

CORPORAL PUNISHMENT IN CHINA.

CASE FOR ITS USE BY MIXED COURT.

The announcement that the Board of Punishment in Peking has authorized the reintroduction of the "bamboo" is not without practical interest for Shanghai, if it means that this extremely effective instrument of punishment is once more to be brought into use at the Mixed Court.

When the order for its abolition was given in 1906, it was felt that an effective check on crime had been removed, and from time to time since that date the Municipal Police have endeavoured to induce the authorities to re-introduce it. They were met with the reply that the bamboo was a barbarous instrument, and ought not to be associated with the administration of justice in the newly-organized State, but it is by no means certain that this "barbarous means of punishment" was looked upon with disfavour elsewhere than in the Settlement.

An especially urgent demand for the bamboo was made about this time last year, during the "armed robbery epidemic," the increase of crimes of this character, and others of lesser importance, being attributed largely to the fact that the offenders were in no danger of receiving the much-dreaded blows. Of late, the extreme penalty of death has been meted out for armed criminals, and some officials are inclined to question the need for using the bamboo in connexion with the smaller crimes, holding the view that it should be used only in such cases as formerly in England were punishable with "the cat."

Petty Crimes.

On the other hand, a strong case is made out by those who contend that petty thefts and other small offences would greatly decrease were the bamboo to be brought into use again. The man who formerly received from fifty to 100 blows as a convicted thief is now let off with a few days imprisonment, not at all

a great hardship during the months when warm prison blankets and regular food are a consideration. Men convicted of violent assault, or robbery, used to begin their term of imprisonment with a hundred or more blows, and a similar number inflicted at the time of their departure from prison served to remind them that prison was something more than a house of rest wherein they might occasionally be compelled to retire.

Up to the present, no official intimation has been given that the Mixed Court authorities may reintroduce the bamboo, but there is no doubt that such an intimation would be welcomed.

According to the "National Herald," the Government's order is that the bamboo is to be used in all courts, including courts under the jurisdiction of military Governors, the punishment to be administered in the presence of the Police Magistrate, the District Magistrate and the gaoler, and not in the courts, as formerly, but in gaol after sentence has been passed.

A Case for Consent,

It is interesting to note that the procedure has been made subject to some rather elaborate rules, contrasting curiously with the arbitrary manner in which the bamboo was formerly wielded by irate Magistrates confronted with stubborn and disingenuous delinquents. It was not uncommon for the bamboo—a formidable instrument in the hands of the old Court "runners"—to be brought into play to facilitate the course of a trial, but according to the new rules, no blows must be given unless a doctor has certified that the prisoner is sufficiently healthy to stand the strain. In the absence of a doctor, the Magistrate is to be the judge of the prisoner's physical as well as moral, qualities. There is one clause in the regulations which is rather perplexing, and casts doubt upon the effectual value of all the rest, namely, that the bamboo must not be administered unless the prisoner will sign a statement expressing his readiness to receive the blows. Experience suggests that there are not now, and never will be, prisoners ready to express willingness to have their sins whipped out of them with the supple bamboo, and unless this rule has been given in error, or is an unconscious touch of humour, the whole official announcement is of no more value than "a scrap of paper."

Regulations for Use.

It must be an error, for we read that the Prefect of Shanghai has instructed his "underlings" that the bamboo to be used must be three and a half Chinese feet in length, and tapering from the handle outwards to a specified width, and may be applied in lieu of imprisonment of the 4th and 5th degrees to persons between the ages of sixteen or sixty convicted of

gambling, fraud, etc., the number of strokes in no case to exceed 120. The bamboo may be substituted for terms of imprisonment under three months, or fines of less than \$100, two blows being the equivalent for one day's imprisonment.

In the old days, a man convicted of some petty theft ran the risk of receiving any number of blows up to fifty, and the severity of the punishment not infrequently had the effect of hastening the offender's departure from the Settlement, to become a permanent resident outside the boundaries.

A RETROSPECT OF THE WHITE WOLF RAIDERS.

WHAT CHINA LOST, WHAT SHE GAINED.

From a Correspondent.

The outstanding feature of the third year of the Chinese Republic has been the White Wolf raid. That there should be any "pros" in the matter may be doubted by the many, but I think reflexion will show these not to have been small or few.

Before the year had got beyond the first ten days the White Wolf band—which had defeated band after band of soldiers sent to exterminate it for the period of about six months in Honan—bounded across the Peking-Hankow line, north of Sinyangchow. In quiet succession the cities of Kuangchow and Shangching in Honan were looted and partly burnt. Then, before the end of the month, the band crossed into Anhui province and visited the cities of Huoshan and Liuanchow, besides many market towns. Liuanchow was the most eastern point of the raid.

A Wonderful March.

Only a few more hundreds of miles and they might have looked on the "Eastern Sea." Probably the large batches of soldiers and the better facilities for moving these in the east were regarded as too hazardous for those almost fearless robbers. At any rate they started west and in their zigzagging manner actually reached the western border of China Proper and then, most wonderful to relate, the band actually returned to its original starting point, having lost comparatively few of its original number.

Memory fails to recall a single instance in the whole history of Chinese brigandage where a band of little more than 1,000 members has practically gone to and from east to west of China. When we consider the large number of soldiers appointed to capture this band, the raid borders on the marvellous.

The wanton destruction of farmsteads, cattle, pigs, fowls, etc., etc., besides the burning of cities and killing, maiming for life as well as violating of their persons, is an account which will never be computed on earth. Turned into dollars the damage would almost sound fabulous.

Recruits for the Army.

Yet it is wonderful how many places were practically untouched, while others were utterly destroyed only a few miles apart. Evidently the band acted capriciously and not on a systematic plan. Their mood at the moment was the ruling factor. Now the "White Wolf" is reported, and generally believed to be dead, and bands of his men in twenties, thirties, seventies, etc., have been enlisted in the Republican Army of China. The old proverb that "Good men do not become soldiers" will not die out for some time yet. Can it be wondered at that soldiers are a curse to any place they are sent to when composed of such men—rather demons—as the White Wolf band proved themselves to be?

On the other hand, I think the raid has saved China from much more widespread trouble and possibly the whole nation from anarchy. The "temper" of the soldiers was being manifested all over the country by mutinies every few weeks or months on a greater or lesser scale. Each of these meant much suffering to the people, who had done nothing to merit such treatment.

Employment for Soldiers.

It was reported that 40,000 soldiers were drawn as a cordon round the "Wolves" in the eastern theatre. I think a good number of these are still in the districts they were sent to at that time. Certainly a far larger number were employed in the different "cordons" formed or attempted to be formed in the western portion of the country. Yet it is a fact that for over six months more than 100,000 soldiers were kept busy by little more than 1,000 common robbers with a few additional recruits and losses from the places they visited.

Stories of generals who would not fight and even some actually supplying the brigands with ammunition are not wholly devoid of foundation. The evacuation of strong positions like Kingtsukuan by some 4,000 soldiers was difficult to understand. We have heard again and again of the advice rendered to the different generals by the notorious Chang Chen-fang—the President's cousin—advice so valuable that Generals Tuan Chi-jui and Chow Tih declare it to have been invaluable to them. Well, whatever that may have been, one thing has been shown clearly, viz.,

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that every provincial governor and his staff affected by the raid have been unable to cope with it.

Mutiny Does not Pay.

The soldiers have had to do a lot of marching backward and forward, with many and long rests between times. They have seen that "robbers" have to be followed right across the kingdom and as many of these marches were made in wet or snowy weather, I venture to think they have learned that mutinying is a dangerous practice. There is little rest given to such and after all \$10 per month with the extras they can squeeze out of a long-suffering and fearful peasantry is far better than the temporary possession of a few hundred dollars which they cannot enjoy.

This moving from place to place has also brought officers and men more into touch with each other and may have enabled both parties to see the advantages of working together.

It is only too patent a fact that in ordinary circumstances these see very little of each other, for the officers spend most of their night gambling and drinking, and drilling is of a minimum quantity.

A Chance for the Government.

While this great army has been on the trail of the brigands the Government in Peking has been able to get a firmer grip of the country. While attention was focussed on the "raid" the powers that he had almost a free hand to grasp the reins firmly over the empire and the end of its thirty year finds fear of a third rebellion or revolution more and more remote. Had those 100,000 men not been so fully employed in following the brigands, it makes one's flesh creep to think what China might have been like to-day.

May we look forward to the correction of other evils in the near future such as bribery and favouritism? Can we hope that ability and not relationship will be the qualification for those appointed to civil or military positions? There seem to be gleams of hope at times, but such old customs or practices die slowly. There are very few who do not condemn the practice in others, but, alas! they have no objection to pocketing such bribes themselves, when offered.

OUTRAGES BY PIRATES.

CUSTOMS OFFICIAL WOUNDED, ANOTHER MISSING.

It was reported in Hongkong on December 31, that a large body of pirates had landed from a junk and

made an attack on the Chinese Customs station at Chinshan and that one European official had been killed and another seriously wounded.

The information the "Hongkong Daily Press" has been able to glean on the subject is that Messrs. R. Cross and T. A. Noud, two members of the staff at Chinshan, attended a cinematograph performance in Macao, which is only a few miles distant, and, on returning to the station, their suspicions were aroused by a large junk lying alongside the Customs jetty. They spoke to the men on the junk, and insisted on searching the vessel. This was resented and, without warning, a number of the occupants of the junk fired at the two Europeans. Mr. Cross was shot three times, but, fortunately, none of the shots struck a vital spot. He was conveyed later to the Macao Hospital. His colleague, Mr. Noud, is missing, and it is thought either that he was shot and then thrown overboard, or that he was taken away prisoner for ransom.

Whether the junk people proposed to attack the station and seize the arms and ammunition, as well as the revenue collections there, or whether they were engaged in smuggling contraband, is unknown.

Piracy on the West River.

Messrs. Banker & Co. have received telegraphic information that on December 28, one of the Company's smaller steamers, the Tien Kwan was attacked by a large body of pirates as she was on her return journey to Nanning from Poshu. The steamer was about twenty miles below the latter place when the pirates, who had entrenched themselves along the bank of the river, which at the point was at no great width, suddenly opened fire with rifles.

The pirates killed several passengers, seriously wounded the chief engineer, and wounded about a dozen others. No details are yet to hand as to whether the pirates succeeded in boarding the boat, and, if so, what their booty amounted to.

This is the fourth steamer owned by Messrs. Banker & Co. that has been pirated within the last two and a half months on the West River. The Company has about ten vessels plying on different reaches of the West River, and, not unnaturally, the persistent attacks by pirates has caused considerable anxiety and uneasiness. The most remarkable feature of the pirates of late is that while until quite recently vessels flying the Chinese flag were those which the pirates almost invariably selected for attack, latterly Messrs. Banker & Co.'s boats, which are under the British flag, have received these unwelcome attentions. Perhaps the withdrawal of the British gunboats from the river has emboldened the pirates.

A SCARCITY OF LIVING BUDDHAS.

REINCARNATIONS IN THE WILDS OF KANSU.

THE TIBETAN'S PASSION FOR PRAYERS.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Sining, Dec. 10.

At present there is a great scarcity of the prominent Living Buddhas in this district. They have passed away from this life, and their new incarnation has not yet been discovered.

Somewhere among these border hills of China or on the steppes of Mongolia or may be in the wild fastnesses of Tibet, little laddies are running about after sheep and playing with the goats, ignorant of the fact that they will some day be known as the reincarnation of some well-known Buddha. In the last few generations the laddies have almost invariably been found among the wealthy.

The renunciation of wealth by Sakamuni seems to have lost its charm upon the Living Buddhas of to-day. It is reported that the wealth of one of the Living Buddhas is enormous, that away down in a dark cell in the Lamaery is a great pile of silver, that all the silver brought as gifts by the faithful is taken to this cell and melted down.

A Praying People.

Are the Tibetans a praying people? A line of a rhyme I learnt as a boy runs thus: "I often say my prayers, but do I ever pray?" The Tibetans fully agree with the first part. They often say their prayers and get other men or other things to say them for them. They are a great people at saying prayers. The dawn of the morning is breaking and you hear him mumbling at his prayers in his tent or his cell. You meet him on the street and his lips are moving and counting his beads at the same time. He is on horseback and ambling along the road mumbling his prayers. At the shop counter as he scans the goods and bargains the price, he mutters his prayers in the intervals. He gathers round the little crowd, listens to the conversation and all the time it is "O ma-ni, O ma-ni, O ma-ni"—too lazy to repeat the whole sentence "O ma-ni-pad-me hum."

The Prayer Wheel.

To be always mumbling his prayers is not sufficient. By the side of his tent there runs a stream and he has erected a little shrine over the water and in the centre there is a little cylinder—filled with prayers within and written without, revolving round day and night, saying myriads of prayers for him. A

huge mast is erected near by, on which hangs a long strip of calico covered with printed prayers, or it may be his tent is near a pass through which the wind blows continually and at its mouth he erects two poles, one on each side of the road and stretching from pole to pole is a strip of calico covered with prayers. Or if he lives in a little cell the calico is hung across the eaves of the roof, or he may utilize a wooden fan, like the electric fans, on the leaves of which are written his prayers, the fan being erected high to catch the wind. Or he may be the owner of a hand prayer cylinder, or carve his prayer in the rock or on a stone by the wayside.

He even makes use of the fuel fire in his tent to add to the multitude of prayers, by fastening a rope right across the tent, passing over the fire. Just under the hole in the roof his little prayer wheel is fastened in a frame, and underneath the wheel a small wooden fan, which is revolved by the heat from the fire, which in turn revolves the little cylinder containing the prayers.

Not for Himself Alone.

The stream, the wind, the fire, are all called into his service, and lest these may not be sufficient he climbs to the mountain top and thereupon builds a cairn or stone mound, and in the top fixes a bundle of brushwood on which he hangs innumerable little flags.

And whilst saying his own prayers he is not altogether forgetful of others. Somewhere down deep in that mysterious heart of this wild, untamed, uncouth highway robber, there hides a spark of sympathy for brothers in distress. The sky is covered with heavy rolling stormy clouds, showering their white snowy crystals lavishly on the mountains, the wind howls and whistles among the crevices, the mountain slopes are rough, slippery and steep, but yonder is the fierce, untameable nomad in the face of the wind and driving snow and the burden of the rarefied air bravely ascending to the top of the mountain.

If Wishes were Horses.

What is his aim? What are his thoughts? Tucked away in his bosom he has hundreds of little pieces of paper, on each of which is stamped a horse. These are called "paper horses" which he has purchased from a priest and in these lie his hope, the virtue of these cause him to face the terrible storm.

"Who knows," says he to himself, "but at this time away among those mountains or in the deep valleys some poor fellow countrymen, pilgrims they may be, are caught in the storm, far away from the abode of man, pushing ahead against odds, till weary and exhausted they

halt by the wayside unable to proceed further."

So he presses on till, he reaches the mountain top, then taking his precious bundle of paper horses from his bosom holds them in his outstretched hand till a violent gust of wind comes along, when he lets them go into the air, then utters his prayer to the Great Compassionate One that he will use the elements to carry these little paper horses over valley and mountain till they reach the poor weary exhausted stormstayed travellers, cause them to alight at their feet and turn them by his great power into living horses—so that the hopeless pilgrim may take hope again by mounting the steed, which will carry him to an ark of safety.

Yes, the Tibetan often says his prayers and I have had borne in upon me this year again that saying prayers is an important part of the Tibetan religious and social life. In May, whilst I was residing in the home of a Living Buddha priests were gathered there for a week of special prayer. In June at another Lamasery which I visited they had just finished a month of special prayer.

A Tibetan Camp Meeting.

On our way to the Kokonor, residing in a Lamasery for four days high up in the mountains, they had one day of special prayers, and among the hundreds of black Tibetan tents in the wide valley running down to the deep blue sea Kokonor, dotted here and there were several large white tents where lamas were gathered together holding a week of special prayer. The tent we visited would hold about eighty people. There were twenty lamas, ten in a row, squatted on the ground facing each other, chanting their prayers, ringing bells, beating drums, clanging cymbals, blowing blasts with shells, whilst around them were men and women muttering their "O-ma-ni's." Men and women with wicked, malicious, evil looks, capable of taking life without any qualms of conscience.

We were not wanted there, and only the escort of the Commissioner made it possible for us to visit them at all—yet there they were saying their prayers. Yes! Tibetans are the greatest praying people in the world. "They often say their prayers, but do they ever pray?"

COMMERCE AND FINANCE.

Jan. 1.

MONEY AND EXCHANGE.

The indemnity for December was settled yesterday. Otherwise the market was extremely quiet. Silver and the rates were unchanged.

During the week the rates were unchanged. Silver improved $\frac{1}{4}$ d.

Business on the whole was quiet during the week. The stock of silver in the bank yesterday was composed of Tls. 61,405,000, \$21,295,000 and 458 bars; of this total the native banks, including the Bank of China, Bank of Communications and the Commercial Bank of China, held between them Tls. 3,750,000 and \$7,600,000.

THE SHARE MARKET.

Prices on the whole kept fairly steady during the week. Langkats showed a better tone than for some time past, owing to the increase in the output. The volume of business, however, still remains restricted.

RUBBER.

London, Dec. 29.

The quotation for Plantation Rubber. First Latex, Standard Crêpe, is 1s. 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.—Reuter.

THE COTTON TRADE.

The market for Mid-Americans has been dull during the week. Reports from New York state that there is no reason for any material advance in prices. The latest New York quotations are 7.96 cents May and 8.38 cents October. The latest Liverpool quotation is 4.38d. May/June and 4.60d. January/February 1916. Local cotton prices have improved during the week, and arrivals were fairly satisfactory. The market was inclined to be firm at the close.

Business in Indian yarn is reported in about 2,000 bales, at prices Tls. $\frac{3}{4}$ above the level of last week. The market in Bombay is reported very firm, prices there having gone up considerably. It is reported that importers have bought about 15/20,000 from the mills in Bombay.

The Japanese yarn market continues to rise, and business in about 5,000 bales is reported during the week at advanced prices.

After the heavy business of the previous fortnight, business in local mill yarn was rather quiet. The tone of the market, however, is good. Business is reported in about 2,000 bales.

PERMATA RUBBER ESTATE, LD.

The report of the directors for the year ended October 31, states that the area of the estate is 288 $\frac{1}{2}$ acres with 55,198 trees. The output for the year was 59,375lb. and the total number of trees in bearing 26,000. The yield for the current year is estimated at 65,000lb. The year closes with a net profit on revenue account of Tls. 19,635.61, transferred to profit and loss account, which with Tls. 21,707.36 brought forward from the previous year gives a total of Tls. 41,342.97, which the directors recommend should be dealt with as follows:—To pay a dividend of 5 per cent. on the issued capital, absorbing Tls. 11,329.25, and to carry forward to the new account Tls. 30,013.72.

BEANS.

The following were the quotations at Tairen on December 25:--
Beans Y.3.01/3.05.
Bean Cake Y.1.14.
Bean Oil Y.10.90.

LANGKAT OUTPUT.

We are informed that the following telegraphic information has been received from the Sumatra Director and Manager of the Maatschappij tot Mijn-Bosch-en Land.

The Output of Crude oil for December 29 was 228 tons and for December 30 230 tons.

Jan. 4.

RUBBER.

London, Jan. 1.

The quotation for Plantation Rubber, First Latex, Standard Crêpe, is 2s. 0½d.—Reuter.

JAPANESE CUSTOMS REVENUE.

It is now a generally admitted fact that an extraordinary decrease has been witnessed in the Japanese Customs receipts for the year, partly because of the forced check on imports and partly on account of the war. In the return for November the revenue has fallen because the falling off in the import trade has been larger during the month by the danger on the Pacific trade routes. As will be seen in the return reproduced here the receipts for the month came down to the plane of Y. 2,440,000, scarcely one-third of the figures for the same time last year.

Months.	1914. Yen.	1913. Yen.
August	4,686,844	6,459,226
September	4,119,719	6,516,073
October	2,965,499	6,503,333
November	2,449,122	6,757,220
Total	33,231,362	52,055,117

If the flagging tendency in the import trade continues for the remaining months of the fiscal year monthly receipts will never rise above Y.3,000,000. In that case the actual result of revenue from the source in question will be seen to be some Y.13,000,000 below the Budget estimate of Y57,860,000.

BEAN MILLS IN NORTH MANCHURIA.

Outside some bean mills on a small scale along the Chinese Eastern Railway, there are only a couple of them at Vladivostok. The decrease in the export of beans from Vladivostok last year opened the eyes of the Russians, says the "Manchuria Daily News." They have seen that the port of Tairen feels a falling-off in the export of beans only little, as it may export bean oil and bean cake to meet a well-sustained demand, barring the effects of the present war. The wide difference in the steamer freights to Europe for beans and bean oil has dampened the boom in the export of beans from the Siberian port, and a new tendency has appeared in the shape of the shipment of beans from Vladivostok to Tairen. The Russians would fain take a leaf out of the Japanese book, and schemes are afoot to found bean mills in North Manchuria. The Nicolisk Saw Mill, with the object of embarking on the bean milling industry, has purchased up-to-date machinery from Europe.

LANGKAT OUTPUT.

We are informed that the following telegraphic information has been received from the Sumatra Director and Manager of the Maatschappij tot Mijn-Bosch-en Landbouwexploitatie in Langkat.

The output of crude oil for December 31 was 229 tons, for January 1, 234 tons and for January 2, 227 tons.

Jan. 5th.

MONEY AND EXCHANGE.

The market opened yesterday with a drop of ½d. in the rates and ½d. in silver. There was very little business in the market.

THE SHARE MARKET.

Prices were steady yesterday, and the market was fairly active.

RUBBER.

Messrs. J. W. Gande & Co., secretaries of the Amherst Rubber Estate, Ltd., inform us that the output from the company's estate for December was 3,885 lb.

Messrs. Scott, Harding & Co., secretaries and managers of the Samagaga Rubber Co., Ltd., inform us that the output of dry rubber from the company's estate for December was 5,623 lb.

The China Realty Co., Ltd., secretaries and general managers of the Consolidated Rubber Estates (1914), Ltd., inform us that the output of dry rubber from the estates for December was 14,551 lb.

Messrs. J. A. Wattie & Co., Ltd., secretaries of the under-mentioned companies, inform us that the estimated outputs from the estates for December were as follow:—

Tebong Rubber & Tapioca Estate Ltd. Dry rubber 41,000 lb.

Chempedak Rubber & Gambier Estate. Dry rubber 8,000 lb.

Anglo-Java Estates Ltd. Dry rubber 48,834 lb., cocoa 50 piculs, and hemp 270 piculs.

Ziangbe Rubber Co., Ltd. Dry rubber 19,800 lb.

Messrs. Geddes & Co., Ltd., secretaries of the Ayer Tawah Rubber Plantation Co., Ltd., inform us that the output of dry rubber from this estate for the month of December was 11,500 lb.

We are informed by Messrs. Schiller & Co., Ltd., secretaries and general managers of the Kamunting (in Kedah) Rubber Plantation Co., Ltd., that they are in receipt of a telegram from the estates informing them that the estimated output for the month of December 1914 is 11,500 lb. dry rubber.

Mr. George McBain, General agent for the Shanghai-Sumatra Tobacco Co., Ltd., informs us that he has received a telegram from the Manager in Sumatra informing him that the estimated output of dry rubber for the month of December 1914. was 18,296 lb.

Mr. George McBain, General agent for the Maatschappij tot Mijn-Bosch-en Landbouwexploitatie in Langkat, informs us that he has received a telegram from the manager in Sumatra informing him that the estimated output of dry rubber for the month of December 1914 was 25,895 lb.

THE CHINA MUTUAL LIFE INSURANCE CO. LTD.**A BRITISH COMPANY.**

Registered under the Hongkong Ordinances and with the Board of Trade (England)

With Assets totalling Taels 8,729,659.20.

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COAL OUTPUT.

The Kailan Mining Administration inform us that the total output of the Administration's mines for the week ended December 26 amounted to 66,288.35 tons and the sales during the same period, to 63,261.19 tons.

PIECE GOODS.

Messrs. Ilbert & Co.'s circular states that the exports from the United Kingdom to China and Hongkong during October are mailed privately as follows:—

1914. 1913. 19 2, 19 1	
Plain Cotton (Unbleached)	5.8 17.0 15.0 17.9
Plain Cottons (Bleached)	8.0 15.7 14.2 31.1
Dyed and Coloured Cottons	7.1 13.0 9.4 9.8
Printed Cottons	5 12 .8 2.1
(In millions of yards)	

LANGKAT OUTPUT.

We are informed that the following telegraphic information has been received from the Sumatra Director and Manager of the Maatschappij tot Mijn-Bosch-en Landbouweexploitatie in Langkat.

The output of crude oil for January 3 was 217 tons.

Jan. 6.

MONEY AND EXCHANGE.

The market was very dull yesterday. The rates were unchanged. Silver improved 1/4d.

RUBBER.

Messrs. A. R. Burkill & Sons, general managers of the under-mentioned companies, inform us that they are in receipt of telegraphic advices from the agents in Penang that the output of dry rubber for December was as follows: Padang Rubber Co., Ltd., 20,500 lb. Karan Rubber Estate Co., Ltd., 9,029 lb.

Messrs. Ilbert & Co., Ltd., the local secretaries of the Gula-Kalumpang Rubber Estates, Ltd., inform us that they are in receipt of the following telegram from their Penang agents:—

Output of dry rubber for December, 74,397 lb.

Shipped to London during December, 66,418 lb.

Cocoanuts, 107,038 Nuts.

Rainfall, 10 inches.

Messrs. Hopkins, Dunn & Co., Ltd., secretaries and general managers of the Repah Rubber & Tapioca Estates, Ltd. inform us that the output of rubber from the company's estates for the month of December, 1914, was 2,500 lb.

HANKOW EXPORT PRODUCE.

The following statistics, published under the direction of the Hankow General Chamber of Commerce, are dated Hankow, December 30:—

The prices quoted are for the net shipping weight, excluding cost of packing for export:—

	per picul
	Tls.
Cowhides, Best selected Nominal	57.00
Cowhides, Seconds	47.50

Buffalo hides, No. 1	23.00
" " 10/35 lb.	
" " 36/80 "	
Goatskins, Untanned	60.00
Buffalo Horns, average 3lb. each	6.50
White China Grass, Wuchang and/or Poochi (Hemp or Ramie)	16.00
White China Grass, Sinshan and/or Chayu (Hemp, or Ramie)	14.50
Green China Grass, Szechuan Jute (Abutilon)	4.60
White Vegetable Tallow Kinchow	10.30
White Vegetable Tallow Pingchow and/or Ma-cheng	10.20
White Vegetable Tallow Mongyu	8.76
Green Vegetable Tallow Kiyu	10.00
Animal Tallow	9.70
Gallnuts, Usual shape	15.50
" Plum	2.00
Cotton	14.50
Black Bristles, Rifflings	—
Turmeric	—
Sesamum Seed, White	4.50
" " Yellow	
" " Red	
" " Black	
Yellow Beans	2.20
Beans	—
Sesamum Seed Oil	—
Vegetable Tallow Seed Oil	8.50
Wood Oil	9.30
Pea Oil	7.35
Bean Oil	—

PHILIPPINE EXPLORATION COMPANY.

Messrs. Andersen, Meyer & Co., inform us that they are authorized by the Philippine Exploration Co. (of Manila) to publish the result of the work on the Gumaos property during the month of December, as follows:—

Gold recovered 305 oz.

LANGKAT OUTPUT.

We are informed that the following telegraphic information has been received from the Sumatra Director and Manager of the Maatschappij tot Mijn-Bosch-en Landbouweexploitatie in Langkat.

The output of crude oil for January 4 was 217 tons.

Jan. 7.

MONEY AND EXCHANGE.

The market was very dull yesterday and was inclined to be weak at the close. Both silver and the rates were unchanged.

THE SHARE MARKET.

Cottons were in demand and Langkats were inclined to be firmer yesterday. Rubbers have remained quiet. Debentures continued to be in request.

BULLION.

Messrs. Mocatta & Goldsmid's weekly circular dated London, December 4, states that "the steadiness of the silver market, referred to in our last circular, has continued and the range of quotations

has been on a slightly higher level, varying between 22½d. and 23½d. The volume of business has not been large but the Indian bazaars have bought intermittently and the market has been further strengthened by a recovery in the China Exchange rates. The quotation to-day is 23d., as against 22½d. a week ago, and although the market remains very sensitive to the influences of supply and demand, there is rather a better undertone."

RUBBER.

Messrs. Hugo Reiss & Co., inform us that they have received the following telegram from Messrs. Kemmel & Co., London, yesterday:—

Spot price, standard quality, ribbed smoked sheet 2½.

Spot price, standard quality, first crepe 2½.

Market firm with improved demand.

Messrs. Brand Bros. & Co., secretaries of the Sua Manggis Rubber Co., Ltd. inform us that the output of dry rubber from the estate for the month of December was 4,658 lb. The total output for the year was 56,041 lb.

RINGWORM SPREAD ALL OVER HEAD

Places Quite Bare. Bad Disfigurement. Ceaseless Itching and Burning. Could Not Sleep. Cuticura Soap and Ointment Healed.

16, Glover St., Preston, Lancs., Eng.—

"The ringworm began about a year ago with a small place at the back of my head.

I noticed the hair was leaving it. It gradually got worse and spread all over the back and sides of my head leaving the places quite bare and also a small place at the front. It was a very bad disfigurement and I suffered a great deal with ceaseless itching and burning. I could not sleep.

"I applied different ointments also two kinds of hair restorers but all to no purpose. I was tired of trying things for the complaint when I happened to read an advertisement about Cuticura Soap and Ointment and decided to give them a trial. From the first I noticed what a clean appearance the affected places had after using the Cuticura Soap and Ointment and the pain was much easier. After a few weeks, first washing with Cuticura Soap and then applying the Cuticura Ointment I received a cure and my hair began to grow again." (Signed) Syd Dark, Jan. 23, 1914.

Samples Free by Post

In purity, delicacy and fragrance Cuticura Soap and Ointment satisfy the most discriminating. A single set is often sufficient. Sold throughout the world. Sample of each with 32-p. Skin Book free from nearest depot. Address: F. Newbery & Sons, 27, Charterhouse Sq., London, or Potter D. & C. Corp., Boston, U.S.A.

Original from
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

LANGKAT OUTPUT.

We are informed that the following telegraphic information has been received from the Sumatra Director and Manager of the Maatschappij tot Mijn-Bosch-en Landbouweexploitatie in Langkat.

The output of crude oil for December was 5,908 tons.

Jan. 8.

MONEY AND EXCHANGE.

Sovereigns—Bank's buying

Rate@ $2/3\frac{1}{2}$ = Tls. 8.79
@ 72.2 = 12.17

Mexican Dollars—market rate

Tls. 72.025

Shanghai Gold Bars, 978

Touch Sh. Tls. 429½

Bar Silver Tls. 111.20

Copper Cash 1,938 per tael

Native Interest 03

Peking Bar @ 430½

LAST LONDON QUOTATIONS.

Bar Silver, 22½

Bank rate of discount, 5%

Market rate of discount 3 m/s. sight
%, 4 m/s. sight %, and 6 m/s.
sight %.

Consols.

Exchange on Shanghai, 60/ds.

Exchange Paris on London, Fr.

New York on London, T. T.,

4.85.40

**CUSTOMS HOUSE EXCHANGE
RATES FOR JANUARY.**

£	@ $2/2\frac{1}{2}$	£1 = Hk. Tls. 8.04
Franc	„ 280½	Hk. Tls. 1 = Francs 3 12
Marks	„	1 = Marks 2.45
Gold \$	„ 54½	Gold \$1 = Hk. Tls. 1.65
Yen	„ 90½	Hk. Tls. 1 = Yen 1.21
Ruppes	„ 15	1 = Ruppes 1.87
Mex \$	„ 1.50	1 = Mex. \$1.50
Roubles	„ 131	1 = Roubles 1.46

* No quotation.

The market was again very quiet yesterday. Both silver and the rates improved ½d.

The opening quotations at the Bank yesterday were as follows:—

ON LONDON—Bank Rate—Tael.

Tel. Transfer 2s. 2½d.

Demand 2s. 2½d.

Credit 4 m/s. 3½d.

do. 6 m/s. 4½d.

Docy. Mills, 4 m/s.

do. 6 m/s.

ON NEW YORK—

Demand 54½

Buying Doc. Bills, 4 m/s. 57

ON PARIS—

Demand 281

Buying Doc. Bills 4 m/s. 293

ON CALCUTTA—

Demand 169

ON BOMBAY—

Demand 169

ON HONGKONG—

Bank, Demand (Nom.) 79½

ON YOKOHAMA—

Bank, Demand 90½

THE SHARE MARKET.

The official business on the Shanghai Stock Exchange yesterday comprised:—

Shanghai Gas Co., Ld. 6 per cent.

Tls. 103½ cash.

Ewo Cotton S. & W. Co., Ld. 7 per cent (pref.) Tls. 104½ cash.

China Flour Mill Co., Ld. Tls. 7.00 cash.

Weihaiwei L. & B. Co., Ld. Tls. 3.00 cash.

Shanghai Mutnal Telephone Co., Ld. Tls. 100 cash.

Direct cash business reported:—

Shanghai Mutual Telephone Co., Ld. Tls. 99½ cash.

Shanghai Cotton Manufacturing Co., Ld. Tls. 78 cash.

Soy Chee Cotton Man. Co., Ld. Tls. 33 cash.

Kung Yik C. S. & W. Co., Ld. Tls. 12½ cash.

Kamunting Rubber Co., Ld. Tls. 4½ cash.

RUBBER.

London, Jan. 5.

The quotation for Plantation Rubber, First Latex, Standard Crêpe, is 2s. 1½d.—Reuter.

FREIGHT.

Messrs. Wheelock & Co.'s report for the fortnight ended January 7 states that the heavy demand for space continues and there is considerably more cargo offering for immediate shipment than the Conference can handle. Owing to the shortage of tonnage the London Conference have been obliged to discontinue forward bookings on cereals and to limit forward bookings of other cargo to one month. Shippers are warned that space should be arranged before making contracts.

Rates of freight by the London Conference from January 5, on the following cargo, will be increased 20 per cent. over the original Tariff dated February 1914:—Antimony; Crude and Regulus; Tea; Oil; Castor, Bean, Rapeseed, Cotton and Groundnut. Steamers to the United States via Pacific and via Suez Canal are all practically full up till end of January. There seems to be no diminution in the volume of trade on the coast and rates are firm both North and South. The next cargo-boats on this berth are as follow:—Marseilles and London, Hirano Maru (January 8), Nankin (January 14), Katori Maru (January 24) and Nile (January 28); Genoa and Liverpool, Perseus (February 12); London, Radnorshire (February 16); New York via Suez, Calister (January 8); and Pathan (January 19); New York via Panama, Indra (January 21).

COAL.

Messrs. Wheelock & Co.'s report for the fortnight ended January 7 states that practically no business was done in Japanese coal during the period. Deliveries to native dealers of late have been very small, but if the weather should turn cold as is only to be expected about this time of the year, we anticipate a much bigger demand. Bunkering in Shanghai has declined rather since the outbreak of the war in Europe, as shipping has been more congregated

in the South where better freights have been prevailing for some time. A few more contracts have been arranged in Fushun coal whilst others are still under consideration. Most of the remaining contracts of Kailan coal for 1915, have been renewed at a slight advance on last year's figures. Stocks—which have been short recently are now up to the average, whilst deliveries have been active.

METALS.

Messrs. S. W. Royce & Co.'s report dated Manchester, November 27, states:—Since the middle of this month there has been more activity in the metal markets, and a general advance in values. Pig iron indeed has been firm throughout the month, and shows a total advance of about 2/6 per ton; during the last fortnight a large business has been done and the advance in values has been rapid; stocks at Middlesbro' have decreased considerably, and altogether the position at present is strong and the outlook good. Copper declined in the early part of this month, but has later improved strongly, and is now firm at an advance of 20/- per ton during November. Tin is about £8.10/- per ton dearer, and is at present steady. Spelter has advanced 27/6 per ton, and is firm. Pig lead is 20/- per ton dearer, and after a very strong market during the last few days is now quiet. Business in tin plates andterne plates is quiet.

LANGKAT OUTPUT.

The following telegraphic information has been received from the Sumatra Director and Manager of the Maatschappij tot Mijn-Bosch-en Landbouweexploitatie in Langkat.

The output of crude oil for January 6 was 199 tons.

TELEGRAMS.

(Continued from page 68.)

to the positions in Flanders and in Northern France by gales and torrential rain. The day has been generally quiet on the rest of the western front.

In East Prussia the Russian army cavalry was repulsed when making an attack on Pillkallen.

In Poland the situation is unchanged on the right bank of the Vistula. On the left bank the German offensive is progressing. Fighting eastward of the Bzura has come to an end and east of the Rawa it is near its end, while it is being continued in the southwest of Inowlodz.

From foreign communications it would appear that Letwicz and Skierniewice are not in the hands of the Germans. These places, however, were taken by the Germans about six days ago and Skierniewice is now already far behind the German front.

Headquarters, Dec. 31.

On the coast it has been generally quiet. The enemy has bombarded the baths of Westende, destroying many houses, without doing any military damage.

Alger Auberge, south-east of Reims, has been blown up by the Germans. A whole company of French soldiers has

been annihilated thereby. Strong French attacks north of the Camp of Châlons have been repulsed everywhere. In the western part of the Argonne the German troops have gained considerable ground, taking several ranges of trenches and making over 250 French prisoners. Near Flirey, north of Toul, the French attacks have failed. In upper Alsace west of Sennheim all French attacks have broken down under German fire. The French laid in ruins the village of Steinbach, which was occupied by the Germans, by systematically bombarding house by house. The German losses are very small.

The situation in East Prussia and in Poland north of the Vistula is unchanged. On the east of the Bzura fighting is continuing. Near Ravka the German offensive has advanced. On the Eastern bank of the Pilica the situation is unchanged.

The German troops fighting in Poland have made over 56,000 Russian prisoners in the pursuit of the events following the fights near Lodz and Lowicz and have taken many guns and machine guns. The total booty made during the German offensive, which began on November 11, are 136,600 prisoners and over 100 guns and over 300 machine guns.

Berlin, Dec. 31.
The "Deutscher Ueberseedienst" reports:

Berlin papers publish a letter written by the French commander of Fort Richelieu, in which he declines to hand over to the German prisoners of war held there. Spanish newspapers sent from Madrid, because he considers their war news to be incorrect and their attitude hostile to France. The Spanish papers, in reality, are strictly neutral.

The French and British measures against the import of provisions into Switzerland are causing a discussion by the Swiss Government whether it may be necessary to substitute a state monopoly of the corn trade. The "Zürcher Post" protests against this coercion directed against a loyal neutral country.

The "Manchester Guardian" calls Japan faithless towards Britain, if the evasive statement of Baron Kato, the Japanese Minister of Foreign Affairs about the restitution of Kiaochow to China is authentic.

The "Deutsche Tageszeitung" points out that the closing of the North Sea and other annoyances to neutrals have not been caused by German warfare, but have been prepared by the British Admiralty in every detail since 1911.

Reports are coming from Madrid of a new French defeat in Morocco, four officers and 77 soldiers having been killed and 4 guns having been taken by rebels.

In the absence of any striking news about the battles, all papers print in a prominent place the protest note of the United States of America to Britain regarding the searching of ships etc. The "Berliner Lokal-Anzeiger" declares that Great Britain will be obliged to grant all the principal demands of the United States, since she does not dare to make the United States her opponent, which would cut off a great part of her imports.

The commentators on the situation in the east unite in attaching little importance to Russia's gains in Galicia; they declare, that the outcome will be decided further north, where the German advance is proceeding according to the plan.

Headquarters deny the report that the Belgians have captured 2,000 Germans in the fighting around Lombaertzyde. The denial states that the Germans have lost altogether, dead, wounded and missing only about 12,000 men in the battles around Lombaertzyde and Nieuport, which have lasted many weeks, and that the number of the missing is but very small.

A Turkish Irade is banning the Egyptian Sultan appointed by the British, declaring him to be an outlaw.

The "Norddeutsche Allgemeine Zeitung" states that the allegation of the

London "Morning Post" with regard to the intention to make Prince Eitel Friedrich of Prussia, the German Emperor's second son, King of Hungary, to be a barefaced untruth.

The Dutch socialistic paper "Volk" estimates the losses of the Belgian army to be two-thirds of its effective strength.

Berlin, Jan. 1.
The "Deutscher Ueberseedienst" reports:

Herr A. Lohman, chairman of the Bremen Chamber of Commerce has stated at a meeting of the Bremen merchants, that Germany is provided with provisions for years to come. The high standard of German science was rendering possible the supply of substitutes for raw materials necessary for warfare, which cannot be imported. Consequently, the shutting off of German imports by the British was only damaging the neutral Powers interested.

It is reported from Amsterdam that sixteen British steamers are overdue in the South Sea and on the coast of South America. The suspicion arises that they have been sunk by German auxiliary cruisers.

The war correspondent of the Dutch paper "Tijd" at the Belgian headquarters admits that the Allies have suffered enormous losses near Ypres. They had lost ground and had been forced to change the disposal of their troops.

Christiania reports that the note of the United States of America against British oppression of neutral trade makes a deep impression and meets with general approval in the northern countries.

Stockholm reports that diplomatic circles at Petrograd are convinced that the note of the Scandinavian Powers will demand the unrestrained import of all objects destined for home consumption.

The "Daily Telegraph" publishes a Washington report, according to which the Imperial Chancellor had tried to get the consent of the Republic of Argentina to Germany's annexation of Belgium. This report is declared to be a pure invention.

The "Rotterdamse Courant" reports that over seventy of eighty mines stranded on the Dutch coast are of British and the rest of French origin.

The arrested socialistic members of the Duma are charged with high treason.

Berlin, Jan. 1.
The German Foreign Office publishes the following reports:

Headquarters, Jan. 1.
Near Nieuport no important events have been reported.

The farm of St. George has not been reoccupied on account of the high water level and because the farm is totally covered by the fire of the enemy's artillery. East of Bethune, south of the Canal, a trench has been taken from the British.

In the Argonne the German attacks are advancing, some 400 French have been taken prisoner and six machine guns, four mine throwers as well as plenty of arms and ammunition have been taken. The Germans have bombarded and set on fire the French camp north-west of St. Mihiel.

All yesterday's attacks near Flirey and west of Sennheim have been repulsed.

The booty made during the month of December by the German troops fighting in the Argonne amounts to 2,950 unwounded prisoners, twenty-one machine guns, fourteen mine throwers, two revolver guns and one bronze mortar.

On the east Prussian frontier and in Poland the situation is unchanged. Thick fog has hindered the operations.

The "Deutscher Ueberseedienst" reports:

The receipts of the Prussian Railways which amounted in August last for the passenger traffic to 56 per cent. of the year's receipts, have risen to 75 per cent, and those of the transport of goods from 41 to 81 per cent, in spite of important reductions having been introduced for both the fare and the rates.

The statistics of employment in Germany during November 1914 show better returns than in November 1913, since there were only 134 applications for each open place against 171 last year.

A British report of December 31 quotes a violent anti-German manifesto of a "Deutscher Humanitäts-Bund", sent to the socialists of Europe and America. A "Deutscher Humanitäts-Bund" is totally unknown to all responsible persons in Germany. Thus the reported manifesto is either a fake or has been issued by nobodies.

At a meeting of the Hamburg Chamber of Commerce the chairman pointed out the stupendous adaptability of German economic life to the war, which created firm confidence in the excellent work done by the Reichsbank. The Railways and the Currency had proved increasing strength during the war. Most of the German ships were safe in neutral ports.

The "Norddeutsche Allgemeine Zeitung" denies the Paris information published by the "Journal de Genève," that Germany was ready in September last to conclude a separate peace with France on the basis of the restitution of Alsace-Lorraine against the acquisition of Belgium. The "Norddeutsche Allgemeine Zeitung" declares that Germany has never thought of a restitution of Alsace-Lorraine.

The Madrid "Imperial" reports that Tangier was again threatened by Moorish rebels. The French had lost in the fights in Morocco over 1,400 men and many officers.

The new year greetings of the German Emperor to the army and the navy recognize the past successes, the incomparable bravery of the troops and the unanimity of the German nation, showing the highest confidence in the national future.

Up to now 586,000 prisoners of war, of whom 8,138 are officers, have been interned in Germany, while many others are on their way to the camps. The number of Russian prisoners is 310,000 and that of the French 219,000. Contrary to Russian allegations, according to which 130,000 German prisoners of war are now in Russia, the German Headquarters state that only about 20,000 men of that number are soldiers, while the rest are civilians arrested in Russia.

The news published about massacres of Jews in Jaffa and their deportation to Alexandra is a pure invention.

AFFAIRS IN CHINA.

Chengtu, Jan. 1.

The intended transfer of the Chiang-chun of Chengtu to Peking meets with general regret by the people in Szechuan.

Peking, Jan. 2.

A Presidential Mandate orders the Ministry of Education to develop the Normal Schools which are the foundation of the Elementary School System. The Mandate further orders the publication of uniform text books which will be used in all Chinese schools. The Ministry of Education has instructed the compilation of a new school system which the Government will enforce as soon as the financial situation will allow it.

Another Presidential Mandate promises pardon to all rebels living in China or abroad if they petition the Chiangchun, Civil Governors or Chinese Consuls abroad repenting their evil doings and declare that they will never take part again in any conspiracy against the Government. Thereupon they are to receive a certificate from the Chinese Authorities which will give them permission to reside in China. Rebels who have taken refuge abroad are allowed to return to China where they will be under the special control of the Chinese Authorities for some time. Former rebels are not excluded from official appointments, if they prove to be capable for service. The heaviest punishment, however, is to be meted out to those who, contrary to their promise, join the rebel movement again.

TUESDAY

MILITARY OPERATIONS
HAMPERED BY WEATHER.

Through Reuter's Agency.

Paris, Jan. 3.

The official *communiqué* issued this afternoon states:—

We maintained, northward of the Lys, all the positions recently won. The enemy only displayed activity in the Zonnebeke district, where there was a violent bombardment.

There was almost complete quiet from the Lys to Arras.

There was an artillery engagement in the Albert and Roye district. Our infantry progressed 500 metres in La Bois Selle.

Sharp artillery engagements occurred between the Oise and the Meuse. We progressed 300 metres at Perthes-les-Hurlus. There were infantry engagements at Beau Séjour, where we inflicted heavy losses on the enemy.

Great activity prevailed at Bois de la Grurie, where the Germans made two unsuccessful attacks. There was also artillery activity on the heights of the Meuse. We gained some ground north-east of Troyon and Bois le Pretre.

We occupied one of the enemy's trenches in the Vosges near Cellesur-Plain. There were artillery engagements at Ban-de-Sapt and the valley of the Fave.

Our gains in the Thann district were maintained. We bombarded a German train at Altkirch railway station and did some destruction to the railway line between Darspach and Dierspach.

Speaking generally, the general relaxation noticeable in our offensive movement must be attributed to incessant rains and soaking soil everywhere, rendering operations almost impossible.

Jan. 4.

The official *communiqué* issued yesterday evening states that there was no change in the situation and that the weather continues to be bad.

RUSSIAN SUCCESSES IN
GALICIA AND BUKOVINA.

Petrograd, Jan. 2.

The official *communiqué* issued this evening states:—

We continue to repulse the German attacks on the Bzura-Ravka front in spite of the enemy's heavy artillery and bombs.

The Germans captured some trenches between Vloszczowa (Vloschov) and Kielce after severe fighting, but were driven out by an attack from the rear. The Russians captured several hundred prisoners and nine machine-guns.

The Russian forces in Galicia have captured the Austrian posi-

tions at Uzok Pass, taking a thousand prisoners.

The Austrian retreat in Bukovina is assuming the character of a rout.

GERMAN ATTEMPT TO CROSS
THE BZURA.

Petrograd, Jan. 3.

The official *communiqué* issued this evening states:—

"There has been a severe artillery engagement along the whole front on the left bank of the Vistula. The attempts made by the Germans to advance at various points on the Bzura were unsuccessful. The enemy was discovered crossing the Bzura early on Saturday morning and was attacked with the bayonet; the few survivors surrendered.

There was also desperate fighting the whole of Friday night north-east of Ravka, which ended in the dislodgment of the Germans from a portion of the trenches they had captured.

A German brigade on Saturday afternoon attacked our position north-east of Bolimow and were repulsed with heavy loss.

The enemy's attacks near Volvine, south of the Vistula, were repulsed. We are advancing successfully in the Uszok and Rostoky Passes, in the Carpathians. The fleeing Austrians are abandoning prisoners and mitrailleuses."

INTEREST IN RUMANIA.

Harbin, Jan. 4.

The Bukharest correspondent of the Petrograd Agency states that the advance of the Russians in Bukovina is continuing successfully. The Russians on December 31 occupied Radantoch, Radautz, Zeletin, and Sereth. Transports with Austrian prisoners are passing Czernowitz daily on their way to Russia.

Rumanian political circles are following with great interest the Russian advance and are of the opinion that the occupation of Suczawa will compel the remainder of the Austrians in Bukovina to surrender or cross into Rumania.

Later.

A Rumanian newspaper is informed that the Russians have occupied Suczawa and have taken many Austrian authorities prisoner. The fugitives have arrived at Burdachen on the Austro-Rumanian frontier.

FIERCE FIGHTING WITH
THE TURKS.

London, Jan. 4.

A Turkish *communiqué* asserts that Ardahan, in Trans-Caucasia, has been captured after a sanguinary battle.

Petrograd, Jan. 3.

The official *communiqué* issued this evening states:—

The battle round Sarykamysh continues to be fought with the great-

est desperation. The Turks have suffered enormous losses.

* Sarykamysh is a lake in the Trans-Caspian territory.—Ed.

THE BOMBARDMENT OF
BELGRADE.AUSTRIAN LOSSES TO
THE SERVIANES.

Harbin, Jan. 3.

The Nish correspondent of the Petrograd Agency states that hostile aeroplanes appeared over Belgrade on December 28 and at noon on December 30. The enemy fired several projectiles towards Karaburm, one of which fell in the town and damaged a building.

In the evening four Austrian monitors appeared before the fortress and also fired on the shores of the Save at Dunai. The bombardment lasted two hours. Several shells exploded in the town, but there were no casualties.

Since the beginning of the war the Servians have captured four standards, 191 cases of ammunition, eighty-six quick-firers, 60,000 rifles, 600 officers and about 60,000 men.

INTERCESSION FOR PEACE.

SPECIAL SERVICES IN GREAT
BRITAIN.

London, Jan. 3.

There were crowded congregations in the churches of all denominations at the Intercession services to-day, which were most impressive, especially those held in St. Paul's Cathedral and Westminster Abbey. The services concluded with the singing of the National Anthem. There were also services at Westminster Cathedral.

ESPIONAGE FOR
GERMANY.TRANSLATION OF DIPLOMATS'
TELEGRAMS.

London, Jan. 3.

Bukharest newspapers report that the Rumanian Legations in Vienna and Berlin recently discovered that the contents of confidential telegrams became known in political circles. Investigation proved that the Secretary of the former ruler of Albania had a copy of the Rumanian cipher code which the Rumanian Government had given to the Prince of Wied for communicating with the Rumanian Legations abroad, and that the Secretary was receiving Mk. 2,500 a month for deciphering Rumanian telegrams for German diplomats.

SMART WORK BY THE
GURKHAS.

We are indebted to a Shanghai resident for the following extracts from a letter received from his brother who, at the time it was written, was with the British Army in France:—

"Everything is going on all right. The poor little 2nd Gurkhas got badly shelled in their trenches. Spies must have given the show away as they were dropping howitzer shells straight into the their trenches. They had seven officers out of ten killed, but they got their own back the next day and under a heavy fire from our guns they (300 of them) stalked up and found the Germans packed so thick that they couldn't use their bayonets properly, so they thinned them out with their kukow and then went in with the bayonet and killed every single man!!

"I saw a lot of the little men coming back wounded, mostly in the hand and arm.

"Rumour has it that we tapped a wireless and located the German Emperor's camp. Four or five of our aviators went out and found the place full of large motors and dropped several bombs on them; there was fearful confusion."

GERMAN REPORTS.

The Editor takes no responsibility for the assertions of German reports.

"Ostasiatischer Lloyd."

Berlin, Jan. 2.

The German Foreign Office publishes the following report:

Headquarters, Jan. 2.

The enemy's attacks against the positions in and on the Dunes north of Nieuport have been repulsed.

Violent attacks north of Verdun and against the front Ailly-Apremont north of Commercy have been repulsed with heavy losses to the French. Three French officers and 100 men have here been made prisoners.

The German troops have completely occupied the fiercely contested Bois de Brule.

Smaller fights south-west of Saarburg had the desired result.

The French are now systematically bombarding places behind the German front. They succeeded in killing fifty inhabitants in shelter behind one of our divisions.

The French official bulletins report that the French are advancing step by step in the village of Steinbach. The Germans have lost no house in Steinbach. All French attacks on the village have been repulsed.

The situation is unchanged on the east Russian frontier.

East of the Bzura and Ravka our attacks advanced with rather favourable weather.

East of the Pilica there is no change.

Berlin, Jan. 2.

The "Deutscher Ueberseedienst" reports:

The report of the sinking of the British battleship Formidable reached Berlin too late to permit the papers to comment on it. The "Berliner Tageblatt" only discusses it briefly, saying that, while German submarines have shown their ability to reach the Channel, it is also possible that a mine was the cause of the loss of the ship.

General von Blume, retired, discussing the situation in the east, remarks that it is impossible to estimate the scope of Field-Marshal von Hindenburg's success. But it appears to be certain that the Russian offensive has failed. Russia has, however, still plenty of men to draw upon, but she must be short of everything else needed for warfare.

A despatch from Constantinople reports that Field-Marshal Baron von der Goltz has left for the Caucasian theatre of war.

The "Norddeutscher Allgemeine Zeitung" takes occasion to stamp as untrue Reuter's report that Germany has requested the United States of America to withdraw her Consuls from Belgium. What has happened says the newspaper is that the German Government has notified all neutral States, that it will not consider the exequatur of the foreign Consuls in the occupied parts of Belgium as binding. The wishes of the various countries, with regard to their Consuls, will be gladly met but on condition that the Consuls are at least entirely neutral.

No demand for withdrawal of any Consul has been made and as a matter of fact many will remain there, including the American Consul-General in Antwerp. The Dutch Consul in Liège is also still there, although he is a Belgian subject.

The Berne newspaper the "Bund" states that of all belligerents Germany and Great Britain alone are able to raise further reserves, the German reserves, of course, being better organized and trained.

It is reported from Athens that the King of Greece has expressed his firm intention to maintain neutrality until the end of the war.

Berlin, Jan. 3.

In the Paris "Temps" a Japanese diplomatist states that Japan can send troops to Europe only if sufficient compensation is given. Further he states that the French losses during the five months of war amount to 48 milliards of francs.

The Paris "Journal" replies that territorial compensation would change the balance of power in the Far East and is therefore impossible.

In the Paris "Temps" another Japanese declares that the despatch of Japanese troops to Europe is not opportune in view of China's attitude and the possibility of an Indian rebellion, which, according to the Anglo-Japanese Alliance, would be put down by Japan. Other reasons which cannot be discussed in public are also against such a measure, the writer apparently alluding to the relations of Japan and the United States of America.

Count Tisza, the Hungarian Premier, in a New Year speech, affirmed that the mutual confidence, love and respect of the two allied Powers were steadfast. Austro-Hungarian troops were fighting under German command and German troops under Austro-Hungarian command. His (Count Tisza's) recent visit to the German headquarters was not made with a view to the solution of any difficulties whatever, but to discuss present measures as well as future political problems arising from the war. In both cases absolute solidar-

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H. M. COOK, Secretary.

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ity and unanimity of the allied States was established.

French papers report that the Mayor of Lyons has ordered the lights of all bridges and embankments to be extinguished at 9 p.m. as the appearance of Zeppelins is feared at Lyons.

On the first day when transactions in the new German war loan took place at the stock exchange in Berlin, the price was more than one per cent. above the price of issue.

WEDNESDAY.

CONTINUED PROGRESS IN ALSACE.

Through Reuter's Agency.

Paris, Jan. 4.

The official *communiqué* issued this afternoon states: "From the North Sea to the Oise the day was quiet and the weather wet. There were some artillery duels. Our heavy guns, opposite Noulettes, silenced the German batteries. There has been particularly violent cannonading along the Aisne and in Champagne: our batteries maintained their superiority and shelled violently the enemy's reserves. In the region of Berthes we seized several *points d'appui*."

There has been intermittent cannonading from the Argonne to the Meuse and on the heights of the Meuse. Our troops unsuccessfully attempted to carry Bourneilles by assault. Our progress continued at Bois le Pretre. We carried an important height to the westward of Cernay and repulsed a counter-attack.

Our progress in Upper Alsace was again marked. Yesterday we occupied the neighbourhood of the church at Steinbach and the cemetery.

VIOLENT FIGHTING NEAR CERNAY.

The official *communiqué* issued this evening states:

There has been very violent fighting in Upper Alsace in the region of Cernay. The French forces, last night, lost and then re-captured the neighbourhood of the church at Steinbach and, this morning, carried the entire village. The French lost for a short time the German works which they captured west of Cernay, but the Germans were unable to hold their ground and the position remains in the hands of the French.

CAPTURE OF STEINBACH ADMITTED.

Amsterdam, Jan. 4.

The official *communiqué* issued in Berlin admits that the French have taken Steinbach despite the severe resistance made by the German forces.

GREAT RUSSIAN VICTORY AGAINST THE TURKS.

LARGE CAPTURE OF MEN AND GUNS.

Petrograd, Jan. 4.

Official.—The fighting at Sary-kamysh in the Caucasus has now turned to our advantage.

We captured almost the whole of the Fiftieth Infantry including the Commander, fifteen officers of high rank, six mountain guns and fourteen protected quick-firers, and also 5,000 Turks, forty officers and several surgeons.

We followed up our advantage and seized some of the enemy's positions and captured another three quick-firers and over 700 prisoners.

We routed a Turkish force elsewhere and took four mountain guns. Our troops are fighting under exceptional conditions as deep snow covers the ground.

SIX GERMAN GUNS CAPTURED.

The *communiqué* issued this evening states:

Throughout yesterday there was no important change on the left of the Vistula. Desperate fighting occurred on the night of the 2nd in the region of Bolimow, where the Germans forced one of the Russian trenches, but were immediately dislodged. The Germans abandoned six guns and a number of prisoners.

The Russians made further progress in Galicia, capturing over 1,000 prisoners. The Russians also captured the members of the Staff and the documents of an Austrian column.

The Russians have had an important success at Ardagan, in Trans-Caucasia, completely routing the Turkish forces.

AUSTRIAN AEROPLANE DAMAGED.

Harbin, Jan. 5.

The Nish correspondent of the Petrograd Agency states that Serbian artillery fired at an enemy's aeroplane which was flying in the Polarevatz direction on January 1. The aeroplane dropped on the Austrian shores of the Dunai.

EXPLOITS OF THE KRONPRINZ WILHELM.

BRITISH AND FRENCH SHIPS SUNK.

London, Jan. 5.

The German str. Otavi has arrived at Las Palmas having on board ninety-three sailors belonging to the British str. Bellevue and three French ships which have been sunk by the German auxiliary cruiser Kronprinz Wilhelm.

The str. Otavi is a vessel of 5,173 tons owned by the Hamburg-America Line. The Bellevue is a ship of 3,814

tons belonging to the Bellevue S. S. Co., Bell Bros. & Co., Glasgow. The auxiliary cruiser Kronprinz Wilhelm is a steel twin-screw vessel of 14,800 tons owned by the Norddeutscher Lloyd.

THE NEUTRALITY OF BULGARIA.

Sofia, Jan. 4.

During a discussion of the Foreign Ministry's Budget, M. Radoslavoff, the Premier, again confirmed the neutrality of Bulgaria. He announced that as long as Bulgaria's interests were not touched, Bulgaria would preserve her present position towards the neighbouring governments.

GREAT BRITAIN'S REPLY TO THE AMERICAN NOTE.

SHIPMENTS OF COPPER FROM AMERICA.

Washington, Jan. 4.

The British Embassy has notified the American Government that copper shipped before copper was declared contraband would, if it was seized, be paid for or released. No cargoes shipped to Italy have been detained at Gibraltar since December 4.

Negotiations are proceeding in London to remove the embargo on rubber.

Later.

It is understood that assurances have been given here that Great Britain will not interfere with shipments of copper to Italy if consigned to reputable firms and shipped in Italian ships. Shipments to Sweden and Norway will also not be interrupted.

London, Jan. 5.

The Washington correspondent of the "Daily Telegraph" is reliably informed that Great Britain's reply to the Note presented by the American Government will be satisfactory. It will promise some concessions and deny the right of America to demand others.

BRITISH VOLUNTEERS FOR HOME.

Mr. H. L. Norcock, of Messrs. Dodwell & Co., who has recently been recommended for a commission in the Army, leaves for home this week. Two well-known British residents in Japan who have been recommended for commissions, Mr. H. Reynell Kobe, and Mr. P. A. Cox of Yokohama are also leaving.

The following, who have been recommended for commissions, are booked to leave Shanghai by the P. & O. S. Arcadia on Tuesday next:—Messrs. S. R. Sebastian, B. D. C. Morgan, A. V. Davies, H. V. Wilkinson, C. M. Forrest, C. D. Dixon, F. G. C. Walker, E. C. Fry, J. K. Brand, B. R. Jackson, J. E. Needham, H. Middleton, S. O. Limby, C. T. Bignell, C. Bussy, A. Mitchell, C. E. Symons,

F. G. Payne and E. S. Elliston. These volunteers will be accompanied by Messrs. Palmer, C. J. Lloyd and Leach, of Hankow, and W. Galloway, of Kobe, each of whom have been recommended for commissions.

LIFE ON BOARD THE SUWA MARU.

VIVID ACCOUNT OF BRITISH CONTINGENT'S VOYAGE.

The following extract from a letter from one of the British contingent on the N.Y.K.S. Suwa Maru, gives a bright account of the last phases of the journey to Egypt.

Port Said, Nov. 27.

We left Colombo at 10 p.m. on November 16. It was a grand sight to see the lights of rather over sixty ships lighting up the harbour and of over thirty more, anchored outside for want of room. A canvas swimming-bath was rigged up forward in the steamer, and its decent size 26 ft. x 20 ft. gave lots of room for quite a crowd of bathers at one time. It was open for three hours in the morning, and three more after dinner, and made good use of, I assure you. Bought some "Lux" at Colombo, and do all my own washing, as the charges on board are rather stiff, 3d. for trousers, 3d. for shirts and 1d. for handkerchiefs. Several of our chaps are hard up, and are doing washing for others at 1d. per piece. Am boxing every other day, and feeling very fit. What with physical drill and other exercise, I scale 158 lb. against the 144 lb. I weighed on starting on October 16. Two of the chaps have got struck off the contingent for being too lazy to attend drill. This makes six cast-offs to date. A doctor on board, Dr. Weir, from Korea has been giving a series of lectures on first aid—very interesting and useful.

Passed Cape Guadafui at 10 a.m. on the 22nd, Aden at noon on the 23rd, a warm enough looking place without doubt. A little later passed fifteen transports returning to India. Though our boat only averages 13½ knots, we have passed any quantity of boats up the Red Sea.

Yesterday we received a wireless that 20,000 Arabs had attacked the British near Port Said, and had been repulsed with a loss of 2,000. This means that the Territorials must already have been in action, the lucky beggars!

After leaving Colombo we held a series of deck sports, a couple of events a day, with large entries. The obstacle race was a pretty formidable affair. Cock-fighting attracts a lot, and the tugs-of-war are immense, three of our men weigh as follows, R. 196 lb., P.—195 and P.—194 lb. Exercise has done a lot for our men. Personally I have gone in for

breathing exercises, have put on an inch round the chest, which is now 37½ in. normal, and 40½ expanded.

Nov. 28.—There were tons of wild fowl in the lakes and marshes. Twenty-three thousand Indians and 18,000 Territorials are guarding the Canal, and we passed heaps and heaps of them in encampments.

We leave for Marseilles tomorrow. It is very cold and most of us are donning our sweaters.

GERMAN REPORTS.

The Editor takes no responsibility for the assertions of German reports.

"Ostasiatischer Lloyd."

Berlin, Jan. 3.

The German Foreign Office publishes the following report:

Headquarters, Jan. 3.

Yesterday at noon some ships of the enemy accompanied by destroyers appeared off Westende but did not fire.

On the whole western front artillery fights have taken place. The infantry has attacked only north-west of St. Menchould where it was repulsed with very heavy losses to the French.

In east Prussia and in north Poland there is no change.

In Poland, west of the Vistula, the German troops after several days hard fighting succeeded in taking Brcymow, a strongly fortified redoubt of the Russian main position, 1,000 prisoners and capturing six machine guns. Their attacks have been repulsed with great losses. The same was the case east of Rawa, where the Germans have slowly advanced.

The Russian successes near Inowloz, which were mentioned several times in the Russian bulletins, are pure inventions. All Russian attacks in that region have been repulsed with exceedingly great Russian losses. The Russians did not repeat the attacks yesterday.

The situation east of the Pilica is unchanged.

The "Deutscher Ueberseedienst" reports:

In a New Year telegram the Pope asked the German Emperor to exchange war prisoners who were unfit for future military service. The German Emperor agreed to do so.

Jan. 4.

The situation in the east is considered to be steadily improving. The military critics of the newspapers believe that the Russian counter-offensive in Galicia is utterly shattered for the time being at least. The events in the east, however, have so frequently brought surprise that predictions cannot safely be made.

The small amount of space given to the events in the western theatre of war in all papers is apparently indicative of the feeling that the centre of interest is

still Poland, and that the struggle in the west has settled into a monotonous test of endurance.

The papers profess to have information that the British attack on Cuxhaven did no damage whatever. Furthermore it is believed that four British aeroplanes have been lost. The light cruiser Arethusa was badly, and another cruiser somewhat, damaged by German bombs. In addition it is believed that two British destroyers were damaged.

Constantinople papers report that Ardahan, in the north of the Kars territory, eighty kilometres east of the Russian and Turkish frontier, has been taken; an official announcement is still not forthcoming.

The Constantinople "Tanin" publishes an interview with Field-Marshal Baron von der Goltz, who is very confident about the outlook for Turkey, and who has declared that the Turkish army has made great progress since his last visit to Constantinople.

A grateful feeling prevails in Berlin about the relief which, according to the latest reports, is being given by German residents in China to the destitute women and children of the Tsingtao garrison.

The official publication of the socialist German Trade Union, the greatest association of German workmen, reviewing the year 1914, says: "We know that we have to hold out, and we shall do so. Our confidence is not only based on the strength of the organization and the execution of the discipline of the army, but also on the love for the country that unites all Germans without exception. Whether the war continues for a month or for years, it merely forces the nation into more united solidarity and increases its forces immeasurably. Germany will emerge from the world war as the strongest Power of the belligerents."

The naval correspondent of "The Times" proposes an answer to the Note of the United States declaring that all objects destined for the enemy are contraband without distinction.

Count Diesbach de la Roche, Attaché of the Belgium Legation at Berne, has communicated to another Legation, that the Germans plundered his father's palace at Ghent, while his sister, after visiting the palace, has expressed her thanks to the German military authorities for the careful preservation of the palace.

The "Mattino," Naples, states that a victory of the Triple Entente would involve the necessity of a universal fight against Great Britain's intolerable supremacy.

The production of the German blast furnaces has increased by the end of November by more than one

third as compared with the month of August.

The "Norddeutscher Allgemeine Zeitung" reproduces an interview of the correspondent of the "Novoye Vremya" with M. Spalaikowitch, the Servian Minister to Petrograd, in which he recalls the fact that the war was inevitable after July 14 because M. Sazanoff, the Russian Minister of Foreign Affairs, then told him that Russia would never admit an aggression by Austria-Hungary against Servia. The Servian answer to the Austrian note was given on July 25. This is documentary proof that Russia wanted war with Germany on account of Servia.

THURSDAY.

STEADY PROGRESS OF THE ALLIES.

Through Reuter's Agency.
Paris, Jan. 5.

The official *communiqué* issued this afternoon states:

In Belgium, in spite of the state of the ground, our infantry progressed along the dunes facing Nieuport. We won, in the region of St. Georges, at different points, 200 metres, 300 metres and 500 metres of ground, carrying houses and trench formations. The Belgian artillery at several places silenced the German batteries.

We entirely stopped the enemy's sapping in the region of Notre Dame de Lorette, westward of Lens, thanks to our mortars and grenades.

The Germans in the neighbourhood of Lille exploded one of our trenches and seized it, but an immediate counter-attack made us masters of the situation again.

There was no infantry action from the Oise to the Vosges. There has been artillery fighting in the regions of Craonne and Reims. Our batteries successfully bombarded the enemy's position in the valley of Suippes as well as in the region of Perthes and Beau Sejour, and the same occurred in the Argonne and on the heights of the Meuse.

In Alsace we captured a village to the south-east of Col du Bon Homme. Our gains on the Thann road have been maintained. Our heavy artillery two kilometres to the east of Upper Burnhaupt silenced the enemy.

PREPARING FOR FINAL VICTORY.

Paris, Jan. 5.

The official *communiqué* issued at 11 this evening states:

Our troops have captured a quarry near the junction of the Rouvrois-St. Mihiel and Maivey-St. Mihiel roads and also some trenches in the vicinity. There have been no further operations. The weather continues bad and it is raining incessantly.

The Grand Duke Nicholas, Commander in Chief of the Russian

Forces, and Generalissimo Joffre have exchanged congratulatory telegrams on the occasion of the Russian victory. Generalissimo Joffre added "The Allies, in all theatres of the war, are now preparing for their final victory."

A LULL ON THE VISTULA.

FALL OF DORNIVATRA INEVITABLE.

Petrograd, Jan. 5.

On the left bank of the Vistula, on the 4th, only desultory rifle and gunfire.

In the neighbourhood of Bolimow and south of that place there were partial engagements.

In Galicia there was no change in the Ujok Pass. Our cavalry attacked the retreating Austrians on their flank and rear, regardless of a snow-storm, and although the foot-paths were deep in snow. During the engagement we captured a Commander and a detachment of officers and over 450 men.

Harbin, Jan. 6.

The Petrograd Telegraphic Agency states that Bukharest newspapers are informed from Marmoritz that the Russians occupied Kimpolung on the 3rd and the fall of Dornivatra is inevitable. Fierce fighting is taking place there now.

Three-thousand fugitives have arrived at the Rumanian station of Burduzeny.

The Russian and Rumanian population of Bukovina is enthusiastically greeting the Russian troops.

The Austrians in their hurried flight abandoned numerous cars loaded with goods. The mere appearance of Cossacks causes a panic among the Austrians. The Russians have captured twenty-one mountain guns and military transports.

RUSSIAN POLICY TOWARDS RUMANIANS.

A Russian Administration has been established at Suchov which allows the Rumanian language to be used by Rumanian officials. Many Russians and Rumanians, who were imprisoned by the Austrians, have been released. A Rumanian lawyer has been appointed Mayor of Suchov.

Rumanian opinion in Bukharest is greatly pleased at the action of the Russian authorities towards Rumanians.

Austrian deserters arriving at Verona state that Austria has summoned four classes of the Landsturm to the Colours in order to attempt to strike at Servia to raise the spirits of the Austrian people.

[FROM RUSSIAN LEGATION, PEKING.]

Petrograd, Jan. 5.

Our troops, on our extreme left flank, marched through the whole of the Austrian province of Bukovina and occupied Suchov, which is two-thirds of a mile from the border between Austria and Rumania.

THE UNDERHAND METHODS OF GERMANY.

[FROM BRITISH LEGATION, PEKING.]

London, Jan. 5.

The Russian Orange Book, just issued, deals with events in Constantinople before the war. It describes the underhand methods employed by Austria and Germany for forcing Turkey into the war.

DECISIVE DEFEAT OF THE TURKS IN THE CAUCASUS.

PURSUIT OF THE ROUTED ENEMY.

Petrograd, Jan. 5.

An official *communiqué* states: We have gained a decisive victory at Sarykamysch, capturing the entire 9th Turkish Army Corps. The pursuit of the enemy continues. Elsewhere the Turks are in a full rout.

Later.

Our victory over the Turkish forces was complete. The General commanding was captured and also three Divisional Commanders. We are vigorously pursuing another corps, which has scattered.

The official *communiqué* issued this evening states: the remnants of the Turkish forces in the Caucasus are threatened with disaster. They are in disorderly flight and are almost surrounded by the Russian forces, who hold the main road.

The Turks are frantically striving to find an outlet and are faced by snow-covered passes."

* According to an official telegram from the Russian Legation, Peking dated Petrograd, January 5, the Turkish General at Sarykamysch was Issan Pasha.—Ed.

ARDAHAN OCCUPIED.

[FROM BRITISH LEGATION, PEKING.]

London, Jan. 5.

The Russian Staff in the Caucasus report that the Russian troops attacked Ardahan on the 3rd and, after fierce fighting, carried the Turkish trenches and occupied the city. The Turks are now in full flight.

[FROM RUSSIAN LEGATION, PEKING.]

Petrograd, Jan. 5.

During the fight at the capture of Ardahan one Siberian regiment charged and slaughtered two Turkish infantry companies. The 4th Sotnia of this regiment captured the colours of the 8th Constantinople (Infantry) Regiment.

LONDON PRESS COMMENT.

London, Jan. 6.

The papers emphasize the importance of the Russian victory in the Caucasus, which is likely to have far-reaching political results. The latest Russian *communiqué* fully confirms the Turkish débâcle; the Russians have captured an immense quantity of guns, mitrailleuses, am-

munition and supplies while the Turkish losses in killed and wounded are enormous.

BOMBARDMENT OF DAR-ES-SALAAM.

[FROM BRITISH LEGATION, PEKING.]

London, Jan. 5.

British warships have bombarded Dar-es-Salaam, the chief port of German East Africa, causing considerable damage to the town and completely disabling all the enemy vessels in the harbour. Fourteen Europeans and twenty natives were taken prisoner. The British casualties were one killed and twelve wounded.

GENERAL SURVEY OF THE WAR

LARGE REINFORCEMENTS FOR THE ALLIES.

Anglo-Chinese Agency.

London, Jan. 5.

The Allies are making steady progress on the extreme right, in Alsace, and extreme left, near Ostend. The successes of the French in Alsace may prove an important factor in the breaking of the German line.

The military operations generally are impeded by the record fall of rain. The moral of the troops is excellent.

It now appears certain that Russia has secured the upper hand in Poland, where the German losses have been so great that an effective offensive is impossible at present.

The Russians continue to achieve successes in Galicia.

Large reinforcements for the Allies are beginning to take the field. The despatch from Great Britain of the first million of trained men of the new army is beginning, while Russia has 5,000,000 men in reserve.

The campaign of the Turks is proving disastrous to them; the Russians have completely routed the Turkish army in the Caucasus.

The London Stock Exchange reopened quietly. There were more buyers than sellers.

The first auction of the steamers taken as prizes of war was held today in London.

The House of Lords will meet tomorrow to enable the Government to discuss any topics of national interest. The country is quite satisfied with the progress of events.

EXCHANGE OF PRISONERS.

Through Reuter's Agency.

London, Jan. 6.

The Press Bureau announces that Germany has agreed to the British proposal for an exchange of prisoners incapacitated for further service. Arrangements are being made accordingly.

THE HOUSE OF LORDS.

London, Jan. 5.

The House of Lords will meet on Wednesday for a two-day session. It is expected that interesting statements will be made regarding the war.

CHRISTMAS DAY IN THE NORTH SEA.

WAITING FOR THE ENEMY.

London, Jan. 5.

Admiral Sir John Jellicoe, writing to his brother, says: "We spent Christmas Day waiting for the Germans who did not appear, but we managed to find time for Church, although during the whole time we were cleared for action and all men were at the guns."

GERMAN REPORTS.

The Editor takes no responsibility for the assertions of German reports.

Ostasiatischer Lloyd.

Berlin, Jan. 4.

The German Foreign Office publishes the following report:

Headquarters, Jan. 4.

Beyond some artillery duels it has been generally quiet on the front.

Near Thann the enemy has shown considerable activity. After an overwhelming fire had been directed on a height west of Sennheim, the enemy succeeded yesterday evening in taking several German trenches on this height and afterwards the village of Steinbach after a stubborn defence by the Germans. During the night the height mentioned was recaptured by a bayonet charge of the Germans. The fight for Steinbach is still proceeding.

The situation in the east is unchanged. The German attacks in Poland east of the Ravka are being continued.

The "Deutscher Ueberseedienst" reports:

A German submarine sent a wireless report to the Admiralty in Berlin that it had torpedoed and sunk the British battleship Formidable in the Channel off Plymouth. The submarine was pursued by British destroyers but escaped unhurt.

The French assertion that the bomb attacks on Freiburg had served military purposes is officially refuted. The bombs fell on private dwellings, on a hospital visibly bearing the Red Cross and near the Municipal Art Collection. Other French bombs have been thrown on hospitals at Inorgrave (?) injuring sick people.

Jan. 5.

The former Norwegian Premier, Sigurd Ibsen, the son of the famous poet, declares that not Germany but France was responsible for the ruinous race of armaments amongst the European Powers. The Triple Alliance was intended to be a guarantee of peace. The character of it

was changed only by the Franco-Russian Alliance. Great Britain, opposing the increase of the German navy, had started an encircling diplomacy against Germany. Sir Edward Grey recognized the impossibility of this policy only when it was too late.

The "Deutscher Ueberseedienst" reports:

Sunday's war news gave an unusually cheering impression. The official announcement that the destruction of the British battleship Formidable was due to a German submarine is further strengthening the general confidence prevailing here with regard to the German navy and has caused lively satisfaction as a further striking evidence how much Great Britain's supremacy at sea is endangered by the German submarine fleet.

The capture of Borcymoff is treated by the military critics as a highly important event. The town of Borcymoff lies about seven kilometres east of the confluence of Ravka and the Bzura and commands the direct highway leading from Lovitsch to Warsaw. The efforts of the Russians to hold this strongly fortified point and the repeated attempts to retake it, clearly indicate the importance which the Russian commander attaches thereto. The position is described as commanding a wide sweep of the surrounding country, and the possession thereof as greatly facilitating the German advance upon Warsaw.

The Berlin "Lokalanzeiger's" military critic regards it as probable that the Germans have succeeded in breaking through the Russian lines here unless the Russians have forestalled this by a general retreat.

The general situation south of the Vistula is regarded as promising more rapid development this week.

The Austrian official bulletin is also more reassuring than the previous ones. It says that the repeated efforts of the Russians to break the Austrian lines west and north-west of Gorlice have failed with heavy losses to the Russians. During this fighting the Austrians took by storm the hotly contested heights south of Gorlice, capturing 850 prisoners.

The Turkish bulletin represents the situation in the Caucasus as progressing favourably for the Turks. The fighting at Sarykamysch has resulted in a decisive Turkish victory. The Turks have taken 2,000 prisoners, eight cannons and sixteen machine guns since Christmas, besides large stores of ammunition and provisions. The Turks have destroyed the railway between Sarykamysch and Kars, capturing two military trains.

The Turks, who have entered Russian territory near Taushkerd (?), have attacked a Russian battalion in George; 200 Russians were

killed, 400 prisoners were taken and the remainder of the Russians were dispersed.

FRIDAY.

GERMAN TRENCHES BLOWN UP AND OCCUPIED.

Through Reuter's Agency.

Pari, Jan. 6.

The Paris *communiqué* issued this afternoon says:

The Germans made two unsuccessful attacks on the Belgian position on the dunes and to the south-east of St. Georges, otherwise there were only artillery duels from the North Sea to the Oise.

Our batteries along the Aisne and in the Reims sector silenced the enemy's guns; we progressed a hundred metres to the north-west of Reims.

A very vigorous action developed in the Argonne enabling us to recapture 300 metres of trenches in the Bois de la Grurie, where a slight bending back of our line was previously reported.

Fierce German attacks at Bagatelle and Fontaine Madame were repulsed.

Near the ravine at Courte-chausse we mined and blew up 800 metres of German trenches, half of which we then occupied.

Bad weather continues from the Argonne to the Vosges, the troops operating in fog and mud. There have been lively artillery actions. We continued to gain ground in Bois le Pretre.

We maintained our gains in the district of Thann, in spite of a violent cannonade both at Steinbach and in the trenches to the north-east and north-west of the village. The enemy regained one of his old trenches on the flank of an adjoining hill, the summit of which is in our possession.

Colonel Garibaldi, at the head of the Italian Regiment, made a vigorous charge at Courte-chausse into the breach made by the explosion of our mines and captured 120 prisoners. The Colonel's brother, Constantine Garibaldi, was killed during the attack.

The official *communiqué* issued this evening states that a lively cannonade has occurred in the region of Zillebeke. Our positions were maintained in the Argonne. We progressed slightly in the Shirtzbach Wood, near Altkirch.

ZEPPELINS OVER THE FRENCH COAST.

London, Jan. 7.

"The Times" correspondent in Flanders states that three Zeppelins were reported, on Wednesday morning, off the coast between Calais and Gravelines, German aviators repeatedly appeared over Dunkirk during the day, possibly acting as scouts to cover the movements of the airships for they dropped only

one bomb. The aviators of the Allies twice drove the intruders away.

RUSSIAN BAYONET CHARGE.

GERMAN FORCE ALMOST ANNIHILATED.

Petrograd, Jan. 6.

The official *communiqué* issued this evening states:

Our troops suddenly attacked Prasnysh, in the region of Mlawa, and almost entirely annihilated the enemy there with the bayonet. They captured some prisoners.

There have been only minor engagements on the other fronts. Our progress has continued in Bukovina, where, after fighting, we occupied four towns, two of which are on the most direct route to the province of Transylvania.

THE CASUALTIES ON THE FORMIDABLE.

London, Jan. 1.

The Admiralty has issued a list of 517 men lost in the sinking of H.M.S. Formidable.

According to the German newspapers, a submarine has reported by wireless that she sank H.M.S. Formidable and that she was pursued by British destroyers but escaped.

A MYSTERIOUS MESSAGE.

London, Jan. 6.

The arrest of Mercier has created a profound impression in Papal circles in Rome which are astonished and hardly believe that Germany would be guilty of such an act.

* Apparently this message refers to Cardinal Mercier, Archbishop of Malines, Primate of Belgium, who is sixty-three years of age.

LORD KITCHENER'S REVIEW OF THE SITUATION.

EFFECT OF RUSSIAN AND SERVIAN VICTORIES.

London, Jan. 6.

The House of Lords was reopened this afternoon.

Lord Kitchener, Secretary for War, made a speech in which he paid a glowing tribute to General Botha, Premier of the Union of South Africa. Lord Kitchener said that the situation in South Africa had undergone a most welcome change and that General Botha had handled the situation in a masterly manner. He had stamped out the rebellion and the result gave them great confidence of future success in any operations that General Botha might undertake.

Reviewing the last six weeks of fighting, Lord Kitchener said: "The Allies have progressed at various points, but the tide of battle has ebbed and flowed with vary-

ing success. The French Army has made noteworthy progress east of Reims and in southern Alsace.

In spite of the transfer of German troops to the eastern front they have left sufficient strength to hold the trenches in the west. German aspirations in Poland have received a severe check and they have evidently realized the infinite difficulty of winter operations.

"The extraordinary achievements of the gallant Servian army and the Russian victory in the Caucasus, will have a far-reaching influence over the Turkish operations. The much talked-of advance of the Turks against Egypt has at present failed to materialize."

GERMANY'S NUMERICAL SUPERIORITY DIMINISHING.

Lord Kitchener continued: "Germany's initial advantage of numerical superiority and extensive war preparations is certainly diminishing, while the Allies are daily increasing their resources of men and material, which will enable them to prosecute the war to a triumphant end (Loud cheers)."

"Since Christmas recruiting has almost reached its former satisfactory level, and I have every reason to anticipate fruitful results from the valuable recruiting work done by members of Parliament which already, has secured 218,000 offers to enlist.

SURPLUS OF OFFICERS.

"The officers cadres in the Expeditionary Forces have been filled up, and there is a considerable surplus of officers for training purposes; since the beginning of the War 29,100 officers have been appointed. The efforts of the War Office have resulted in a gradual overcoming of the difficulties connected with the equipment of the new army to which we looked in all confidence.

"In spite of the terrible weather conditions, the training of the Canadian contingent proceeded satisfactorily. Officers and men are imbued with a fine spirit of eagerness to get to the front where I am confident they will worthily support their comrades." (Loud cheers.)

SPEECH BY LORD CURZON.

Lord Curzon urged that the utmost number of men be sent to the front with the least delay. He believed that considerably more than 2,000,000 were needed, possibly the actual number required was nearer 3,000,000.

He expressed the utmost satisfaction with the recent course of events in Egypt and paid a tribute to the Indian troops and expressed the hope that their numbers were being maintained.

Lord Kitchener replied in the affirmative.

A NOTE OF SOBER CONFIDENCE.

The newspapers of all shades of opinion welcome Lord Kitchener's

statement, which was dominated by a note of sober confidence, but there is a general disposition to regret the paucity of detailed information particularly regarding recruiting.

Articles in the papers emphasize the encouraging response to the call for officers, which disposes of the German argument that Great Britain would never find sufficient leaders.

The newspapers likewise pay tributes to the work of the British troops in the Colonies, which is no less praiseworthy than that of those in Flanders.

GERMAN REPORTS

The Editor takes no responsibility for the assertions of German reports.

Ostasiatischer Lloyd.

Berlin, Jan. 5.

The German Foreign Office publishes the following report:

Headquarters, Jan. 5.

North of Arras the Germans have blown up a trench of two hundred metres and made some prisoners. Later counter-attacks of the enemy failed.

In the Argonne several charges of the French were repulsed.

The French attack between Steinbach and Uffholz was repulsed in a bayonet fight.

In east Prussia and north Poland the situation is unchanged.

The German attacks east of the Bzura, near Koslov, and Biskupi as well as southward of these places are advancing.

East of Bolimow the Germans have advanced east of the Rakva over Humin and the heights northward.

Further south up to the Pilica and on the right bank of the Pilica there is no change.

The state of the roads and unfavourable weather is impeding the operations of the Germans.

Washington, Jan. 7.

The Austro-Hungarian Embassy publishes the following official report:

Vienna, Jan. 5.

In the Carpathians all Russian attempts to invade Hungary have been repulsed.

South of Gorlice our troops have taken an important line of mountains as a favourable base for further events.

Farther north in the region of Tomaszoff the Austro-Hungarian and German troops are advancing.

During Christmas time we captured 37 officers and 12,698 Russians as well as numerous machine guns.

Berlin, Jan. 5.

The "Deutscher Ueberseedienst" reports:

The operations in Alsace appear to make progress favourable to the Germans. According to Swiss reports the French have been completely driven from the Vailly river.

All their troops have withdrawn in the direction of Belfort. All attempts of the French to use Thann as a base for an aggressive movement have proved in vain. The western seat of the war otherwise is characterized by great quiet, the unfavourable weather apparently hindering all operations.

Vigorous operations have taken place in Russian Poland. The Austro-Hungarian bulletin reports that the Austrian troops have succeeded in occupying the important line of heights southward of Gorlice, which is a favourable base for further operations. It is unofficially reported from Vienna that the Austrians had to withstand very strong attacks by the Russians on these heights. The position is specially important because it forms the natural junction of the Austrians in the Carpathians with the main army, and a break in this position would have had results for the general military situation. Hence the determined attacks by the Russians there. The official Austrian bulletin summarizes the result of the fighting at the more northern theatre of war during the Christmas week, mentioning that 37 officers and 12,700 prisoners have been captured.

There is no news from Servia or from Turkey.

The French Yellow Book No. 5, dated July 30, 1913, reports on public opinion in Germany, saying "Herr von Kiderlen-Wachter, the German Secretary of Foreign Affairs, was last winter the most hated man in Germany. He now begins to be only unpopular, because he is said to promise revenge." Herr von Kiderlen died in December 1912. Even the Copenhagen "Politiken" remarks upon the unreliability of the Yellow Book, which produces no proof of German aggression, but merely expresses French "sentiments." The "Politiken" calls the Yellow Book a polemic pamphlet.

The "Norddeutsche Allgemeine Zeitung" states that Hartlepool, according to the British Monthly Army List, belongs to the coast defences. Whitby had, according to the British Monthly Navy List a coast guard station. Scarborough had a battery of six 15 inch guns, soldiers, barracks and a radio station.

The German Reichsbank had on December 31, 1914, 2,092 million gold Marks against 1,169 million Marks on December 31, 1913. 42.2 per cent. of the banknotes were covered by metal and cash on hand.

Budapest reports that Mr. Radoslawow, the Rumanian Premier, has stated, that the relations of Bulgaria and Rumania were friendly. The permanent neutrality of Rumania during the present war was probable.

News comes from Rome that Great Britain is sending her Indian

troops landed in Egypt to the European theatre of war, because she fears that the Indians will be unreliable against the advancing Turks.

The Germanophobe "Corriere della Sera" reports that eight hundred German and Austrian civilian prisoners are interned at Rochefort, where they are kept in a worse condition than convicted criminals. Their bedstraw has not been renewed since the beginning of the war.

Genova reports that the Italian Government has taken energetic measures against the illegal exportation, to France, of objects serving military purposes.

The Paris "Eclair" learns from Havre, that the greater part of the provisions in the Dunkerque arsenal have been destroyed by the German bombardment.

The French paper "Bataille Syndicaliste" refutes the allegation that the Triple Entente is fighting for greater liberty of the people. The contrary is proved by France fighting on the side of Russia, the most reactionary Power.

The deposits at the Nuremberg Savings Bank exceeded at new year those of last year by Mks. 300,000 although Mks. 800,000 were withdrawn for instalments on the war loan. Also the new deposits of the Munich Savings Bank exceed the withdrawals by a larger amount than last year.

The "Neue Zürcher Zeitung" protests against Great Britain withholding grain, kerosene, cotton and metals from their destination in Switzerland, thus violating Switzerland's position as a neutral independent Power.

NEWS FROM EAST ASIA.

Peking, Jan. 6.

Commenting upon the understanding reached by Sun Pao-chi, the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Mr. Hioki, the Japanese Minister to Peking with regard to the Customs in Tsingtao, the Chinese papers express their satisfaction. Mr. Aglen, Inspector General of the Chinese Customs will appoint the staff on the condition that not less than thirty-five per cent. of the Customs officials are Japanese. It is alleged that Japan has rejected the proposal of Great Britain to appoint a British Commissioner of Customs in Tsingtao.

Peking, Jan. 7.

According to the "Peking Jihpao" the income of the Chinese Government amounted to about \$170,000,000 during the year 1914. During the same time \$168,880,000 was expended. For the first time since the establishment of the Republic there was a surplus. The surplus of \$1,200,000 has been deposited with the Chinese State Bank.

A Presidential Mandate promulgates the introduction of a uniform system of measures.

GENERAL TELEGRAMS.

Through Reuter's Agency.

ITALIAN INFANTRY IN ALBANIA.

Rome, Dec. 30.

A regiment of Bersaglieri landed at Valona to-day. They were received by the Italian Admiral and Consul and the local authorities, and marched through the town headed by the Italian and Albanian flags, the inhabitants cheering.

One battalion was sent to Canina, another to Arto, both places in the vicinity, while one remains at Valona.—Reuter.

NEW YEAR'S LIST OF HONOURS.

KNIGHTHOODS FOR THE COLONIES.

London, Dec. 31.

The Honours List announces no new peers. The Earl of Derby and the Earl Chesterfield are created Knights of the Garter; Lord Lovat a Knight of the Thistle; the Earl of Aberdeen, who has just resigned the Lord-Lieutenancy of Ireland is made a Marquis and the Right Hon. Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, Viscount St. Aldwyn, is created an Earl.

The "Gazette" announces that Prince Louis of Battenberg has been made a Knight Grand Cross of the Royal Victorian Order. Captain Grant, of the auxiliary-cruiser Carmania, Commander Bar of the Carmania and Captain Glossop of the Australian cruiser Sydney are made Companions of the Order of the Bath.

BARONETS.

The Premier's list of Baronets consists of Mr. Cochrane, of Dublin; Mr. Hamar Greenwood, Liberal M. P. for Sunderland and Colonel Robert Williams, Conservative, M. P. West Dorset and a Director of the London and South-Western Railway. There are sixteen knight-hoods, including the poet Henry Newbolt and the Astronomer-Royal, Mr. Frank Watson Dyson.

Mr. Hamar Greenwood was born and educated in Canada and was for eight years a Lieutenant in the Canadian Militia. Col. Robert Williams is an Hon. Col. of the 4th Battalion Dorset Regiment.

Mr. Henry Newbolt, the well known author of "Admirals All," "The Island Race," "Songs of the Sea" and many other works, was educated at Clifton College and Corpus Christi College, Oxford, is a Barrister of Lincoln's Inn and from 1899-1908 was a member of the Council of the Navy Records Society.

Mr. Frank Watson Dyson, F.A.S., has been Astronomer-Royal since 1910. He was educated at Bradford Grammar School and at Trinity College, Cambridge, of which College after a brilliant academic career, he was elected a Fellow. From

1891-1905 he was Chief Assistant at the Royal Observatory, Greenwich and from 1905-10 he was Astronomer-Royal for Scotland.—Ed.

PRIVY COUNCILLORS.

Sir William MacGregor, Governor of Queensland.

Sir William MacGregor was born in Scotland in 1847 and has been Governor of Queensland since 1909. In 1873, after filling the posts of resident Surgeon and Resident Physician at the Royal Infirmary, Glasgow, and the Royal Lunatic Asylum, Aberdeen, he was appointed Government Medical Officer of the Seychelles and in the next year Surgeon at the Civil Hospital, Port Louis, Mauritius. In 1888 he was appointed Administrator of British New Guinea, becoming Lieut. Governor in 1895. From 1899-1904, he was Governor of Lagos and, from 1904-1909, Governor of Newfoundland. In 1902 he represented the West African Colonies and Protectorate at the Coronation.—Ed.

The Hon. E. S. Montagu, M.P.

The Hon. E. S. Montagu, (Lib. Chester Division, Cambridgeshire) was Parliamentary Secretary to the Chancellor of the Exchequer from 1906-8, Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister from 1908-1910, when he became Under-Secretary of State for India. He is now Financial Secretary to the Treasury.—Ed.

The Hon. P. H. Illingworth, M.P.

The Hon. Percy Holden Illingworth (Lib. Shipley Division of W. R. Yorks) is Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasury and Chief Liberal Whip. He was formerly a Captain in the Westminster Dragoons, J.Y.—Ed.

The Hon. Arthur Henderson M.P.

The Hon. Arthur Henderson (Lab. Barnard Castle Division, Durham) has held a number of official positions in connexion with his Trade Union and was Chairman of the Parliamentary Labour Party from 1908-10. He is a Secretary of the Labour Party and in 1911 was a member of the Railway Royal Commission.—Ed.

C. M. G.

Mr. Charles Arthur Bell, for services in connexion with the Tibet Conference.

G. C. M. G.

Sir Louis Mallet, H.M. Ambassador to Turkey.

Sir Louis du Pan Mallet, K.C.M.G., was appointed Ambassador to Turkey in 1913. He entered the Foreign Office in 1888 and became a 3rd Secretary in 1896. From 1905-7 he was Private Secretary to Sir Edward Grey and from 1907-13 he was an Assistant Under Secretary of State for Foreign affairs.—Ed.

The Colonial office List also includes:

Sixteen knight-hoods, mostly conferred on Canadians and Australians.

Fourteen Companions of the Order of St. Michael and St. George including—

Brigadier-General Dobell.

Captain Fuller of H.M.S. Cumberland.

Mr. J. H. Sinclair, Colonial Secretary at Zanzibar.

Mr. John Houston Sinclair, after serving in the Colonial Audit Department at Somerset House, was sent to the East Africa Protectorate as Government Auditor in 1896. In 1899, he was transferred to the Consular Service.—Ed.

OBITUARY.

MR. P. H. ILLINGWORTH, M.P.

London, Jan. 3.

The death has occurred, from typhoid fever, of the Right Hon.

Mr. Percy Illingworth, P.C., who has been Chief Whip of the Liberal party since 1912.

Mr. Percy Holden Illingworth, Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasury, was appointed a Privy Councillor on January 1. He represented the Shipley Division of the West Riding of Yorkshire from 1906, as a Liberal. Previously to his appointment as Chief Liberal Whip he was a Junior Lord of the Treasury.—Ed.

THE LORD LIEUTENANT OF IRELAND.

London, Jan. 3.

It is officially announced that Baron Wimborne has been appointed Lord Lieutenant of Ireland in succession to the Marquis of Aberdeen, who recently resigned.

THE CHINESE EASTERN RAILWAY.

RESUMPTION OF PASSENGER SERVICE.

Harbin, Jan. 3.

The time-table for passenger trains on the Chinese Eastern Railway, which was in force before the war, will be resumed on January 6, with the exception that there will be only one express a week and this will leave Harbin each Friday.

A COLLISION IN THE INLAND SEA.

FRENCH MAIL AND BLUE FUNNEL STEAMER.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Kobe, Jan. 4.

The Compagnie des Messageries Maritimes mail str. Cordillere, which left here at eleven o'clock last night, is reported to have been in collision with the Blue Funnel str. Hyson this morning in the Inland Sea.

Both vessels are expected to arrive here at any moment.

The Cordillere, 6,007 tons gross, was due to leave Shanghai for Europe on Friday next. The Blue Funnel Line str. Hyson is 6,608 tons gross.—Ed.

CHINESE MARITIME CUSTOMS REVENUE IN 1914.

DECREASE OF FIVE MILLION TAELS.

Through Reuter's Agency.

Peking, Jan. 4.

The total revenue of the Chinese Maritime Customs for 1914 shows a decrease of Haikuan Tls. 5,062,000 as compared with the previous year, the total collection reported being, in round numbers, Tls. 38,907,000—at an average exchange of 2/8½, equalling £5,309,184—as compared with Tls. 43,969,000 in the record year 1913, which, at the average exchange that year of 3/0 5/8ths, was equal to £6,708,479.

In round numbers, the collections at the principal ports were as follows:

Harbin: Tls. 1,040,000; an increase of Tls. 10,000.

Tairen: Tls. 1,586,000; a decrease of Tls. 178,000.

Tientsin and Chingwangtao Tls. 5,021,000; a record collection, being an increase of Tls. 339,000 over 1913.

Kiaochow to September 30, Tls. 1,186,000; a decrease of Tls. 729,000.

Hankow: Tls. 3,690,000; an increase of Tls. 81,000.

Shanghai: Tls. 12,061,000; a decrease of Tls. 2,414,000.

Swatow: Tls. 1,483,000; a decrease of Tls. 547,000.

Canton: Tls. 2,856,000; a decrease of Tls. 490,000.

All the foreign obligations secured on the Customs Revenues are fully met to December 31, 1914.

MURDER OF A HARBIN FAMILY.

Harbin, Jan. 5.

A small store-keeper with his family of seven was murdered last night in his store which is situated in the centre of the town. The object was robbery. The murderers have not yet been discovered.

SERIOUS FLOODS IN THE THAMES VALLEY.

London, Jan. 5.

After the wettest weather on record, the floods in the Thames valley have reached alarming proportions.

An Emergency Committee has been formed at Maidenhead to consider the serious position of the town, which is threatened by the collapse of a dam.

THE JAPANESE CABINET.

Tokio, Jan. 7.

The following changes have been made in the Cabinet. Viscount Oura, the former Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, succeeds Count Okuma as Minister of Home Affairs and is replaced at the Ministry of Agriculture and Commerce by Mr. Kano, a prominent member of the Doshikai Party.—*Reuter*.

LOCAL AND GENERAL NEWS.

MR. E. W. P. Mills, of the British Consulate, left for home this week on furlough.

MR. A. L. M. C. Pichon, of the Chinese Maritime Customs Service, is spending a few days in Shanghai.

MR. W. H. Donald, Peking correspondent of the "New York Herald," is spending a few days in Shanghai.

MR. FRANCIS HARFORD, one of the best-known singers in Manchester, went to the front some little time ago.

TWENTY-NINE members of the British community in Tientsin had gone home to enlist in the army at the end of the year.

ON Thursday afternoon two Chinese convicted of armed robbery in the Settlement were executed by shooting at the Arsenal.

MR. W. A. Adams, of the United States Consulate, was on Wednesday admitted to practise in the United States Court for China.

THE armament factories in Japan are reported to be busily engaged. The Government factories are providing the Allies with munitions of war.

A SHOP and part of a dwelling house in the Rue du Consulate, No. 320, were destroyed by fire between 5 and 6 p.m. on the 4th instant.

FROM Home newspapers it appears that Field-Marshal Lord Kitchener was at the front when the King and President Poincaré visited the troops.

ACCORDING to "*Ruy Blas*" every French member of the Rothschild family has returned his Austrian title of nobility to the Emperor Francis Joseph.

THE 9,000 ton steamers of the Osaka Shosen Kaisha, now in course of construction at Nagasaki and Kobe, will be named Manila Maru and Hawaii Maru.

IT is satisfactory learn that Mr. A. R. Moores and Mr. H. J. Blatchford, who were injured while at work on the Hankow Road fire, are progressing favourably.

MR. E. O. Reis, Commissioner of Customs, who has been conducting the annual examination of the Customs Staff in Chinese, left Shanghai for Peking on Monday.

THE Bank of British West Africa has established a branch at Lome, the capital of Togoland, the German West African colony now occupied by the British and French.

MISS MARIE CORELLI has written what is described as a "fine fighting article." The way to get an article of this kind from Miss Corelli is to make a noise like a reviewer.

CAMBRIDGE University proposes to confer the degree of Doctor of Law *honoris causa*, upon Lew Yuk-lin, retiring Chinese Minister to the Court of St. James's.

THE case of Tackey v. Purdon was mentioned in the Supreme Court on Thursday morning before Sir Havilland de Sausmarez, Judge, and was again adjourned for a fortnight.

THE late Mr. Albert Lewis, aged 67, of 29 Warrington Crescent,

Maida Hill, W., formerly of the Chinese Maritime Customs Service, left personally valued at £23,283.

A telegram on November 27 from Suva states (says *Reuter's Melbourne correspondent*) that Mr. Harcourt, the Colonial Secretary, has approved of Fiji sending a contingent to the front.

IN the House of Commons, recently, Mr. Herbert Samuel said that, as far as could be estimated, there were in the United Kingdom 2,600,000 unmarried men between twenty and thirty years of age.

According to *Reuter's Valona correspondent*, the Italian occupation of Valona in Albania, was sealed by hoisting the Italian and Albanian flags at the Prefecture. There was an enthusiastic scene.

THE P. & O. S. Arcadia arrived here on Tuesday, bringing the English mail of November 28. Among the passengers arriving from Hongkong was Mrs. A. R. Lowe, daughter of Mrs. P. de T. Evans.

REUTER'S Belgrade correspondent, telegraphing on January 1 says:—four Austrian monitors, on Thursday evening, bombarded the fortress of Belgrade and the banks of the Save and Danube.

THE Malaya is one of the fifteen super-Dreadnought battleships to be added to the British Navy before the end of 1915. They are all ships of the greatest power of any vessels that have ever been constructed in naval history.

REUTER'S Chengtu correspondent telegraphed on Thursday:—The Chinese troops on the Tibetan frontier who recently mutinied and killed their Commandant have been surrounded and their capture is expected soon.

HAVING read that Sir Percy Scott was gazetted to the President for special service, the Cologne Gazette gives him the title "President of Special Service." It is about as right as our German contemporaries generally are.

ONE of the casualty lists issued at the end of November states that the Rev. J. T. Hales, who had been unofficially reported a prisoner of war, has been released. Mr. Hales was formerly chaplain to the British garrison in Tientsin.

MOKUWEOWEO, the great summit crater of Mauna Loa, the most spectacular of Hawaiian volcanoes, is again in eruption after a long period of quietude. It was believed to have become extinct. Lava is rolling down the mountainside.

THE West Australian contingent of troops can make the proud boast that they are the only body of men at the front who have a bishop for their chaplain. This is the Bishop of Kalgoorlie, and he is accompanying his troops to the war.

SUNDAY was observed at Holy Trinity Cathedral, as at Home, as a day of humble prayer and intercession. The form used was based on that followed in St. Paul's Cathedral and was used here with the authority of the Bishop.

AFTER hearing several witnesses at an inquest concerning the death of Badden Singh, who died one night recently at 866 Myburgh Road, the Coroner (Mr. G. W. King) Wednesday returned a verdict of death from natural causes.

ACCORDING to Reuter's Wuchang correspondent, the New Year was observed by the Government. The Changchun feasted all the officers who were engaged in the suppression of the White Wolf and tendered them his thanks and congratulations.

A TELEGRAM from The Hague says that the Kaiser has given instructions that the Press department at General Headquarters shall prepare daily war bulletins in Esperanto in order that they may be sent to the Esperanto Associations in neutral countries.

Two sharks of the "killer" variety have been observed in the bay between Yokohama and the Honmoku Buoy. These sharks show a dorsal fin of some three to four feet, and besides attacking whales, have been known to assail fishing-boats and upset them.

SINCE the discovery of a concrete artillery bed in a factory at Willesden, London, a dozen or more have been traced and brought to the notice of the War Office, the positions chosen for some being "striking" in more than one sense of the word.

THE exclusion of journalists from the war area has been modified, and a party of journalists, selected by the French authorities, is now visiting the armies, says the "L. & C. Express." Another British party will be granted the same privilege.

IN the Tokio District Court, on December 25, judgement was given in favour of the plaintiff in the action of Milne *versus* Milne, in which Mrs. Annie Kearsley Milne applied for a decree of divorce from her husband, Mr. Norman Preston Milne. The suit was undefended.

THERE have been 1,061 Old Etonians on active service in France, Belgium, Africa, and with the Naval forces during the war. Of these 133 have been killed in action, seventeen have died of wounds, 170 have been wounded, thirty are wounded and prisoners, and twenty-six are missing.

THE estimates of the Japanese Coronation expenditure, amount to ¥5,390,377, viz. ¥3,928,423 for direct expenses under the Finance Department and ¥1,461,954 for expenses of the Foreign, Home, War,

Navy, Education and Communications Departments. The estimates have been approved by the Diet.

MESSRS. Raphael Tuck have issued a charming Christmas card, at the special request of the Committee of the Prince of Wales's Fund. Too late for sale in the Far East for Christmas, it should none the less find purchasers both as a most interesting souvenir and a small means of adding to the fund.

At the Mixed Court on Monday morning a caddie was charged with assaulting Mr. C. S. Coulter by striking him on the face with his clenched fist while in the execution of his duty as park keeper at the Hongkew Recreation ground on December 31. The complainant, however, did not appear, and the case was dismissed.

MANCHESTER, which, after sending 50,000 men to join the forces, raised the whole of a fifth City Battalion of 1,070 men, is now well on the way with a sixth. Outside the town hall the authorities have placed a large "thermometer," which gives the recruiting figures from hour to hour.

MESSRS. Cox & Co., of London, are acting bankers to the British army in France and have opened a central office 23 Rue de la Paix, Paris. Lord Robert Cecil is with the same office, in the special department for finding out all details of British wounded, dead or missing in conjunction with the British Red Cross.

THE "Echo de Paris" learnt, at the close of November, from its Rome correspondent that it was noted in the recent fights in Flanders that the Germans very seldom used cavalry. Since the beginning of the war they have lost a considerable quantity of horses which they cannot replace. It can now almost be said that the German cavalry no longer exists.

AN Imperial Ordinance was issued by the Emperor of Japan on December 29 ordering that the Budget for the previous year should be adopted for the next fiscal year (1915-6) in accordance with Article 71 of the Constitution. This is an outcome of the dissolution of the Diet.

A TELEGRAM was received on Sunday from Yokohama announcing the death of Mr. M. A. Bassity, of Shanghai, chief shipping clerk of the Kailan Mining Administration. Mr. Bassity left Shanghai on December 19, and was proceeding home on six months' leave. He leaves a wife and two children in Shanghai. The greatest sympathy will be felt for them in their sad loss.

THE Duchess of Marlborough has fortified Sunderland House, Curzon Street, against the attacks of bomb-dropping Zeppelins, by erect-

ing a false roof of stout wire netting, which rises on thick scaffold poles some two yards or more above the real roof. Sunderland House is the personal property of the Duchess. It was given to her by her father, who bought the site of old Ourzon Chapel to build it on.

THE Masquerade Ball at the Astor House Hotel on New Year's Eve was a great success over 500 people being present. The fancy costumes were excellent and in many cases most novel. After the 12th dance supper was served in the dining room and dancing was resumed until an early hour in the morning. Everybody present left with the wish that the Hotel will hold a similar dance at no distant date.

A PRESIDENTIAL mandate has just been issued conferring the Chiao Decoration of the 4th class on Mr. Cho Ta-chün. Mr. Cho, whose courtesy name is Lanfang, was once compradore to Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., Ltd. The mandate states that he has been selected for this distinction in recognition of his work in establishing industrial factories at various ports in Kiangsu and Manchuria.

THE death is reported from Johannesburg of Sir Edward Solomon, K.C.M.G., the well-known Transvaal ex-Minister and politician. The deceased, who was a brother of Sir William Henry Solomon, a member of the Supreme Court of South Africa, was sixty-six years of age. He was a Senator in the Union Parliament, at one time Minister of Public Works, and founded the Transvaal National Association.

"THE falling off of crime in England since the beginning of the war has been truly remarkable, as compared with three years ago. There has been a diminution of thirty per cent. in indictable offences," said Justice Wallace in charging the grand jury. His Lordship explained that he attributed this decrease to public restraint in war time, but principally to the reduction in the number of hours saloons were permitted to stay open.

At the Mixed Court on Wednesday, Mr. C. F. Garstin, British Assessor, gave judgement in a case in which four pawnbrokers from Yangtzepoo appeared for decision in regard to the payment of the redemption fee on a quantity of flannel, pawned at their shops, which had been stolen from the Yangtzepoo mill. The Court ordered three of the pawnbrokers to give up the goods without receiving compensation, while the fourth was awarded \$1.

At the Police Court on Thursday morning, before Mr. G. W. King, a Sikh was charged with being drunk and incapable in Foochow

Road the previous day. Inspector Vaughan said that the Gurdwara had offered to assist him by giving him a passage to India but he had practically refused to accept it. He was an undesirable, and should have gone on board the steamer on Tuesday. The accused was fined \$5, in default three days' imprisonment.

A BEAUTIFUL stained glass window has been added to All Saints' Church, Tientsin, and is located just above the font. It bears the following inscription: "In ever loving memory of Mary, wife of Claude William Kinder, born 19th August 1861, died 25th March 1911. Blest are the pure in heart." Mr. C. W. Kinder, C.M.G., M.I.C.R., is well known to older residents as the former General Manager and Engineer-in-Chief of the Peking-Mukden Railway.

A RESERVE Japanese army officer named Homma, Mr. Muramatsu (a Nationalist member of the Diet), Mr. Shimada (a Seiyukai member of the Diet) and Mr. Kazama (a Chuseikai member of the Diet) on behalf of the promoters of a scheme to send an expedition of volunteers to Europe waited on Count Okuma, the Premier, on the 29th ultimo and inquired his views on the scheme. The "*Mainichi*," which gives this information, omits to mention the Premier's answer.

ACCORDING to a despatch from Athens dated November 29, twenty-three persons were killed and others were injured in the earthquake in Western Greece and the Ionian Islands. On the island of Santa Maura the earthquake caused strange convulsions of the earth's surface. A mountain collapsed and crumbled away for a distance of nearly two miles, and the waters of the Ionian Sea covered 125 acres of the valley. New small hills appeared at different points on the island.

ACCORDING to the "London & China Express" a Petrograd paper says that it has information that on the fall of Tsingtao the German Emperor sent the Japanese Emperor a message in which he proposed to conclude peace with Japan on whatever terms the latter would like to fix. In return he stipulated for only one thing—that Japan should attack Russia. The Japanese Emperor declined the proposals in the most categorical fashion.

THE German postal authorities have issued an elaborate table of Germanized names of Belgian cities and of "annexed territory in Northern France." Among them we learn that Calais is henceforth to be known as Kales, Dunkirk as Durkichen, Lille as Ryssel, and Boulogne as Boonen. Further east, Besancon becomes Bisanz; Nancy, Nanzig; and Epinal and Vesoul become Spienelen and Wisel. Would

it not be better to wait until they really are annexed?

By way of celebrating the New Year in Peking, some of the authorities appear to have considerably relaxed the anti-gambling laws. This came to the ears of President Yuan and caused him much displeasure. Gambling raids were ordered, and the strict enforcement of the law. The result was the failure of several promising New Year's parties. Whether the authorities culpable in the matter of relaxation were also punished, history does not relate.

THE depletion of bank staffs by enlistment has caused strange changes behind the counter. During the first days of dislocation, and before the emergency could be met, one general manager of a Manchester bank had, of necessity, to reduce himself to a ledger clerk at odd times. Most banks have now called in the assistance of their pensioners, and are employing girls to type and to work the large number of adding machines used in the big offices.

AMONG the late Sir Walter Gilbey's other claims to notice may be counted the unexpected fact that he or his firm are responsible for what is surely one of the best hexameters in the English language. This is, or used to be, found printed in very small type at the foot of the label on every bottle of Gilbey's port wine, and runs as follows:—"Bottled in brilliant condition, but care must be used in decanting." The accent, rhythm, and neat alliteration of this would be hard to beat.

A VERY successful "at Home" was held at the Navy Y.M.C.A. on New Year's Day. A large number of men from the U. S. men-of-war besides civilians attended, including Rear-Admiral W. C. Cowles, Captain Dayton, Lieut.-Commander Theleen, Chaplain and Mrs. Fleming, Father Gleason, Mr. T. Sammons, Consul-General, and others. Tea was served during the afternoon by the American Woman's Club, after which an enjoyable programme, contributed by men from the service, was given.

THE queue-cutting campaign which has been very virulent of late in the Tientsin Native City has come to a sudden end. It appears that a native policeman, mistook a girl for a man, and without inquiry, promptly cut off her hair. Her father's indignant protests carried weight with the authorities, for the offending constable has been most severely punished and the officials have decided that the police activities in this direction must now cease. Who says that women have no rights in China?

THE January issue of the "Chinese Recorder" is a special one in

point of number of illustrations, size and contents. The articles are widely, though not exhaustively, representative, and their general tone is of encouragement for the future of missionary work in China. The progress indicated is clear and definite and it is evident that missionary work must centre more than ever round the preparation of Chinese workers. Chinese Christians are increasingly active and some headway has been made towards self-support.

OUR Canadian correspondent writes:—All kinds of rumours are afloat as to an invasion of Canada by the Germans in the United States. Both Governments are watching: but very little apprehension is felt regarding any such foolish attempt. It may be just as well to mention that the Government has mined necessary points of the Atlantic and Pacific coasts, and taken other wise precautions. German cruisers, and their friends who supply them with information and coal, will please take notice.

THE Rev. Dr. Mahaffy, whose belated promotion gives a clerical successor to Provost Traill, is the most brilliant and versatile of all the "Fellows of Trinity so great in Divinity." If Dublin University were still derided as the "Silent Sister," the reproach would be wiped away by Dr. Mahaffy's long list of literary achievements. The new Provost is not only a many-sided savant, but a clever and amusing conversationalist. He became a great favourite with King Edward, during whose reign he was frequently invited for the week-end to Sandringham.

PART of General Villa's forces were reported on November 27 to have entered Mexico City, Villa himself remaining at Tula. In a personal message to Press representatives at El Paso, Texas, says Reuter, General Villa intimates his expectation of arriving at an agreement with General Zapata. In the event, however, of the latter refusing to accept his terms, General Villa contemplates an immediate assault upon the capital. Other advices received from places in the neighbourhood of Mexico City say that General Zapata is restoring order in the city and punishing his own men when they are found looting or molesting the inhabitants.

THE War Office has assured the Canadian High Commissioner's secretary, W. L. Griffith, that no orders for boots or shoes have been given outside the United Kingdom, which disposes of the assertion made in Canada that such orders had been extensively placed in the United States. The War Office further said that they are anxious to place such orders in Canada whenever the opportunity offers.

Ten thousand saddles have been ordered by the government through the High Commissioner and orders also for clothing probably will follow.

KRUPP's, which is increasing its capital to £12,500,000 was turned into a joint-stock company in 1903, in accordance with the testamentary provisions of Frederick Alfred Krupp, who died in 1902. The capital was then registered at £8,000,000 divided into 160,000 shares of £50 each, all save four of which went to Fraulein Bertha Krupp. In time of peace Krupp's employees numbered 75,000, and the pay roll totalled £5,000,000 a year. The new capital can easily be provided by the "cannon-queen," whose private fortune was recently estimated at £15,000,000.

SOME excitement was caused in Nanking Road on Tuesday evening by fire breaking out on a tram car. As the car was proceeding towards Chékiang Road, electric sparks began to fly furiously from above the driver's head, and beneath the body of the car, this being an effect of faulty insulation. The body of the car took fire, and there was a rush for the doors, while several Chinese dropped out through the windows in their extreme haste. A company of the Fire Brigade promptly put in an appearance and the fire was extinguished before the car was greatly damaged.

A SERIOUS charge was preferred against a Chinese woman at the Mixed Court on Monday, being that of cruelly ill-treating her child, aged four years, by beating him on various parts of the body, thereby causing or aiding his death, at No. 35 Hwakee Road on January 1. P. C. C. Peters told the Court that when the child died a number of wounds were found on the body. The doctor's certificate stated that there were several small ulcers on the toes, and bruises on the back, which may have been caused by a whip. Evidence was taken, after which the accused was discharged on the ground that there was not sufficient evidence.

A novel appeal to the public has just been issued by the Mayor and Corporation of Braunsberg, township in East Prussia. The district seems to be very prolific in cats, and the authorities have hit upon the brilliant idea of at the same time thinning out the cats and benefiting the army in the field. They, therefore, call upon the citizens to shoot the cats and to send in the skins as speedily as possible to the town hall. The Mayor points out that cats' skins, being known to afford great protection against rheumatism, would prove of great comfort and value to the soldiers.

THE counterfeit banknotes case was again mentioned at the Mixed Court on Monday, when a Chinese farmer was charged on remand

with attempting to utter two counterfeit \$10 notes on the Bank of China, and also with being in possession of seven other counterfeit notes. Mr. K. E. Newman appeared for the prosecution, and said that Det.-Sub-Inspector Brewster had been to Tsungming and found that one man had already been arrested by the authorities in connexion with the case. The Tsungming authorities asked for both men to be handed over, and an order was made accordingly.

BESIDES the recruits who have recently gone home, Shanghai is represented in the war by men, and the sons of men, who were prominent in this community years ago. Among these latter are the two sons of Mr. J. C. Bois who will be remembered by all old residents as the head of Messrs. Butterfield and Swire. His elder son, who is a soldier by profession, is a Captain in one of the British Infantry Regiments summoned from India, while the younger, Geoffrey, who has been a keen volunteer for several years is serving in Flanders with a Territorial Regiment. Major Gerry, who married the only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Bois, is at present in England engaged in training men for the new Army.

A SUMMONS has been taken out against a Chinese farmer under somewhat peculiar circumstances, and the case will shortly come before the Mixed Court. The circumstances are stated to be that the accused, who formerly supplied flour under contract to the Sikh police at Gordon Road station, became annoyed because the contract was taken from him and given to a rival flour dealer. It is alleged that, upon seeing a quantity of flour ready for delivery near the police station, he placed lime in it and then deposited the mixture in the flour bin in the Sikhs' cook-house. The charge to be preferred against him is that of wilfully and knowingly mixing a quantity of lime with flour for the purpose of causing sickness amongst the Sikhs.

On January 1 the "Hongkong Daily Press" and its kindred publications passed under the direction of a new proprietorship, a private limited liability company having been registered in the Colony to take over these properties. The shareholders are composed chiefly of the family of the late Mr. Y. V. Murrow, whose name has been identified with the paper since the beginning of 1859. Mr. D. Warren Smith, who has been responsible as lessee for the conduct of the business for many years past, continues his connexion with it as Chairman of the Board of Directors. The control of the Company's affairs in Hongkong has been entrusted to Mr. H. A. Cartwright, who has spent some twenty years in literary

and journalistic pursuits at Home and abroad.

AMONG the subjects at the recent examinations for promotion in the clerical service in Penang, says the "Straits Echo," was an account of the visit of the Emden to the port. Three candidates distinguished themselves with the following: (1) — Having sunk the Russian ship, the Emden fired at the oil tanks at Bagan Luar, but missed them, at which the manager was glad. (2) — When she had sunk the Russian cruiser, the Emden left the port without giving notice of her departure, contrary to the rules and regulations of the Harbour Department. (3) — When she had sunk the Russian cruiser, the Emden departed without firing at the town. This was a good thing, as the volunteers were at the cable station with no one to look after them.

ABOUT 6.30 a.m. on Monday the Fire Brigade received a call to the dancing hall and resort known as "Maxims," Sicawei Road, in the occupation of a Mr. von Frankenstein. Three companies turned out, Nos. 1, 4, and 7, and on arrival at the house found that a cinema and dancing hall forming the left wing of the building was in flames, and that the whole building was threatened. After working hard for three-quarters of an hour, however, the firemen had the outbreak in check, confining it to this one section on the ground floor. The entertainment hall, with its furniture and fittings and a cinematograph apparatus, was destroyed. The cause of the outbreak had not been ascertained when the Brigade left. We understand that the premises were insured for Tls. 3,000.

On Thursday afternoon an informal "At Home" was held at the Chinese Young Women's Christian Association for the benefit of the membership, who in spite of the rainy weather, came out in good numbers. The programme for the afternoon was given by Mrs. J. J. Connell assisted by Mrs. William Knapp, accompanist and pianist. Mrs. Connell sang a selection of charming folk-songs of different countries, which she prefaced by a short descriptive talk, thus helping her audience to picture the setting of each song. Mrs. Connell's delightful rendering of the programme was ably supported by Mrs. Knapp's spirited and sympathetic accompaniment, and the appreciation of the audience showed how thoroughly they enjoyed the music. Mrs. Frank Gamewell provided the refreshments and with Mrs. S. K. Tsao was one of the hostesses of the afternoon.

THE Governor of Hongkong has decided that further contingents for the new service battalions may be sent to England by the Colonial

Government. The first contingent is to sail on January 16. The enlistment of those accepted will not be carried out in the Colony, but after being medically examined by a military medical officer and finally accepted by the D.A.A. and Q.M.G., they will be required to sign a bond that they will carry out their intention of enlisting on arrival in England. Acceptance for any corps other than infantry is not guaranteed. Passage is granted from Hongkong onwards only. Applicants from outstations will have to find their own way to Hongkong, and, if not accepted, will not be given return passages. Applicants should be of British parentage; other nationalities cannot be accepted. Return passages to Hongkong after the war are not guaranteed either by the Colonial Government or Military authorities.

In contrast with the lavish manner in which the German Kaiser has been flinging about the Iron Cross—although there is a story that his Majesty recently tore that decoration off the breast of an Imperial Prince, who had made a fool of himself in France—the Victoria Cross is still as difficult to win as ever. Up to November 27 but nineteen awards had been made, four to the Royal Field Artillery, three to the Royal Horse Artillery. The Royal Engineers have also secured three, while the Royal Fusiliers and the King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry, have each gained two decorations. The other units that have each got one V.C. are the 9th Lancers, the 15th Hussars, the King's Royal Rifle Corps, the Welch Regiment, and the Royal Army Medical Corps. Nine of the awards have been given to officers (four of whom have since died), and the remaining ten to non-commissioned officers and men, several of whom have now been promoted from the ranks.

THE East China Educational Association, consisting of educators in the three provinces of Kiangsu, Chékiang, and Anhui will hold its annual meeting in Shanghai, on February 9 and 10. Among the subjects and speakers on the provisional programme we note the following:—President's Address, "The Relation of the East China Educational Association to the East China Educational Union" by Dr. Parker; "The School as an Evangelizing Agency" by Lowry Davis; "Uniform Examinations" by H. S. Redfern; "Co-operation among Mission Schools" by J. A. Silsby; "Co-operation between Mission Schools and Government Schools," P. W. Kuo; "Some Difficulties of Anglo-Chinese Education" by Dr. Hawks Pott; "English Spelling" by J. W. Crofoot; "School Sanitation and Hygiene" by Dr. W. W. Peter; "New Educational Movements in

America" by J. M. Espey; "Courses of Study" by Drs. J. F. Procter and Fong F. Sec.; and an evening public lecture by Prof. C. H. Robertson on some scientific subject.

ONE Chinese detective on the Municipal Police staff was killed, and two assistants wounded, as the result of a fight with desperadoes at a house in Bubbling Well Road on Wednesday evening. The detective, No. 74, had traced two or three suspicious-looking men to a house at the rear of the Grand Hotel, and he determined upon raiding the house, failing however, to ask for the necessary assistance from his superiors. The desire to make a *coup* on his own initiative unfortunately cost him his life. As far as is at present known, accompanied by two assistants, the detective entered the house, and awaited the arrival of the gang—a mode of procedure not unknown to "cinema" detective drama. Four or five men put in an appearance, and directly they were tackled by the three police officers, opened fire with revolvers. All three men were wounded, the leader so seriously that he died shortly afterwards. The two assistants are expected to recover. The members of the gang escaped. An inquest on the body of the deceased officer was opened on Thursday and adjourned.

WITH reference to the complaints about the non-delivery of newspapers at Tsingtao the Japanese Postmaster in Shanghai writes to remind us of the notification issued on November 26 last. Letters and postcards addressed to Tsingtao (he says) are being forwarded by this office and they now reach their destination usually within about four days and that, in consequence of the weekly call of the Tairen liners at Tsingtao, the transmission will henceforth be much accelerated. As regards newspapers for Tsingtao (he continues) "I regret to state that owing to the less complete accommodation of the means of transport, we are instructed only to give way for the present to those which are addressed to the military authorities there, but I am inclined to believe that the time will come before long to allow the transmission of the mail matter of sort addressed to whatever class of residents there." The point is, why should accommodation on the trains, to say nothing of the new steamer traffic, be less complete now than before the war? We trust the Japanese authorities will be able to remove this irksome restriction at an early date.

THE NEW MAP OF CHINA.

We are asked by the Far Eastern Geographical Establishment to state that the New Map of China, which was published on January 4,

and for which there is a great demand, is now being issued to subscribers strictly in the order in which subscriptions were received. So many letters have been received by the publishers regarding the New map that the office staff has not been able to cope with them.

THE CHINESE POST OFFICE.

It is pointed out to us that our Anhui correspondent who complained recently of the behaviour of the Chinese Post Office in respect of newspapers, is in error in two points:—

(1). China is officially a member of the Postal Union since September 1, 1914. The adjournment of the Postal Congress which was to take place at Madrid on September 14 did not affect this step in any way.

(2). The note referred to which appears in Postal Notification No. 59 is in perfect agreement with the rules and regulations of the Universal Postal Convention, Article 5, par. 2, 2°.

This note was to the effect that a two cent tax was collectable on all printed matter addressed from foreign countries to places not served by steam.

GUNPOWDER EXPLOSION IN TOKIO.

A SPARK FROM A PICK.

A gunpowder explosion took place in the Military Powder Factory at Meguro, Tokio, about 10 o'clock on the morning of the 28th ultimo. Nine men at work were severely injured, and were conveyed to the Red Cross Hospital.

The accident occurred in a rather curious way. The scene of the explosion was the powder weighing room, where for several years powder has been stored. As the room was to be employed for weighing purposes it was determined to have the ground dug up, as it was impregnated with the powder from the storage, and asphalt laid down in place of wood. While this was being done, a spark from one of the picks used by the workmen, caused by striking on a stone, ignited the powder with which the earth was impregnated, with the result that a serious explosion resulted. It is stated that the workmen did not damp the ground thoroughly before beginning the work.

TAKING THE CAKE.

There is in Shanghai at the present moment a certain cake of unusual dimensions and, it may be, of unusual interest to a number of our readers. Further than this we would not particularize, although we may emphasize the very unusual dimensions of that cake and, no

doubt the equally unusual excellence of its manufacture. Now as at the time of the late Queen Victoria's first jubilee, when she was presented with a Buszard cake standing seven feet high, it must have occurred to many of our readers to wonder what he or she would do with such a monstrous confection, as, let us say, this other unusual cake in Shanghai, if by happy chance he or she became possessor of it. And thus idly wondering, one remembers that a contingent of British volunteers for the front is leaving next week and that steerage food, though nutritious and ample is necessarily not luxurious, and sea breezes are very keen. Such a cake would last even a hungry contingent of volunteers for some little while and be most welcome. So, perhaps, if the disputed question of ownership were settled, say, next Monday, the cake might form a part of the volunteers' luggage, and the donor would have the satisfaction of knowing that at least he was spared an unusual indigestion.

SPEEDING UP THE TAOYINS.

NEW ZEAL OF PROVINCIAL OFFICIALS.

From Our Own Correspondent.
Liuanchow, Dec. 31.

The recent Mandate on the personal responsibility of the Taoyins has acted rapidly. Almost before the ink of the Mandate was dry the Taoyin for this district left Anking on a tour of inspection. This explained the placarding of the city with complimentary tickets on the virtues, etc., of the Prefect. The myriad families have produced a Buddha "He regards the people as his own naked children." The Taoyin spent two days here and I met his party half way towards Lunchowfu, which sixty miles he covered in two instead of the usual three days for officials. What his report may be, the future only will tell.

Dry weather has enabled much progress to be made in rebuilding and fresh shops are being opened daily. On the other hand local master carpenters, etc., dare not engage many men lest wet or snowy days prevent their working, when they must be fed as usual. Many workmen have come from other places and competition is keen. Some have returned to their old places as they have not found this place a gold mine.

The elders have procured a certain amount of rice for selling next spring when stocks are exhausted.

ONE EFFECT OF THE WAR ON CHINA.

MORE COMPLAINTS AGAINST THE POST OFFICE.

From an Anhui Correspondent.
August was to have seen China enter the Postal Union, but the war

prevented that conference and China is still a non-member.

With December we saw one of the results of this, for without any intimation whatever we, in centres not served by steam, were taxed two cents each for our foreign papers, which hitherto had been half-cent or one cent, according to weight.

After application we got a copy of Notification No. 59 and were surprised to find it dated September 1, 1914, by order of the Postmaster General. We find a note to this effect: "A tax of two cents (five centimes) for each article distributed is collected from addresses on printed papers of all kinds, newspapers, books and printed matter—received from foreign countries and addressed to non-steam served places."

Have the postal authorities found their staff too hard worked to weigh and differentiate these items as all other countries do? Or is it an intimation that registration as newspapers in other countries is only "a scrap of paper!" to be cast aside.

We shall have to refuse Smith's, Brown's and Jones's catalogues, circulars and other useless items for which we might have continued paying the smaller sums and the Chinese Post Office will soon have plenty of waste paper in hand. Chinese postage, like telegrams, bids fair to become the most expensive service under the sun.

SURVEY CENSUS AND TAXES.

REPUBLICAN IMPOSTS ON CHEKIANG.

Shaohsing, Dec. 31.

The Chekiang authorities seem to have anticipated the recent mandate of the President of the Republic ordering a survey of China. Surveying parties have been in Shaohsing for some months; numerous poles to be seen placed on the crest of high hills and other vantage grounds, together with stakes driven in along the roads, testify to the activity of the surveyors.

I have heard from a reliable authority that yet another census is to be taken—the third since the founding of the Republic! Last year the census was taken twice and, on asking the reason of the necessity of a second census, I was informed that the first was so hopelessly incorrect that a second had to be undertaken. The second, I am afraid, was also far from accurate, for one compound, which is well known to me, had thirteen people living in it and the census officer had only recorded eight on the copy of the register which was posted on the gate.

During the past year several new taxes have been imposed. Chairs and boats have been taxed for the first time, large boats must pay \$4 a year. Notwithstanding this tax,

the government has not expended a single dollar on either the upkeep of roads or the repair or deepening of the canals. A tax has also been levied on all new bamboo work which enters the city. Under the Manchus a few articles escaped taxation but nothing, save rice and potatoes, seems to escape the Republic.

SEDITION IN THE PHILIPPINES.

ALLEGED PLOTTING IN HONGKONG.

The Manila newspapers on Christmas Day announced the arrest of fifty Filipinos by the members of the City Secret Service. The men are charged with complicity in a revolutionary plot. They were for the most part armed with bolos, hatchets and knives. Two large Katipunan flags were also captured and a number of commissions signed by Artemio Ricarte, of Hongkong, making their holders officers in the army of the revolution, were recovered.

There was no make-believe in the plans for the uprising, the "Cablenews" says. The first word came from Superintendent James, of the Department of Sanitation and Transportation, who telephoned the Luneta police station that a large number of men, acting suspiciously and carrying arms, were in possession of the Botanical Gardens. The chief of secret service at once sent the patrol wagon with a detachment of plain-clothes men, armed with riot guns, to the scene. They started to round up the suspicious characters and were promptly fired on by some of them, three shots being fired but without effect. The men scattered in all directions, but, owing to the prompt work of the police, three of them were arrested and with them was taken a Katipunan flag, some ammunition and one dagger so sharp that it could easily be used as a razor.

One of the men arrested confessed to the police that an outbreak had been arranged for Christmas morning.

SERIOUS CHARGE OF ASSAULT.

CASE AT THE MIXED COURT.

A serious charge was preferred against a foreigner named Jacob Reven, of 113 Yangtsepoo Road, at the Mixed Court on Monday. The case was the sequel to a wounding affair which occurred last month, during which a man was severely injured about the face. The accused was charged with being concerned with Amoroso Giovanni, an Italian subject, and Marco Bloom, a German protégé, with feloniously wounding O. Veltman by cutting him on the face with a razor, with intent thereby feloniously, wilfully

and of malice aforethought to murder him, on December 20.

Det. Inspector Cruickshank told the Court that the complainant was a Russian subject. Evidence would be called to the effect that on the afternoon of December 20 the Italian went to the complainant's shop and asked for money. This was refused, and it was then alleged that all three men returned to the shop later and beckoned the complainant out into the road. He went out, whereupon one of the men held him by the arms, while the Italian drew a razor and tried to cut his throat. The man struggled, and sustained a severe injury on the forehead. He fell to the ground, and while there he was cut on the leg. The Italian was arrested on the spot, and the injured man sent to hospital, where he had been detained for more than a week. The accused was later on arrested, but denied being there on December 20, or any knowledge of the affair whatever.

In answer to the Court, Inspector Cruickshank said that in the other two cases the evidence for the prosecution had closed. The accused, who claimed to be a Rumanian subject, was taken before two Consuls, but they refused to recognize him.

The hearing was adjourned.

ST. MONICA'S SOCIETY.

SATURDAY'S SUCCESSFUL ENTERTAINMENT.

The tableaux vivants of the life of Joan of Arc, kindly organized by M. Darré for the St. Monica's Society in aid of their war relief fund, took place on Saturday at the St. Joseph's Institute. There was a very large and appreciative audience, and a considerable sum of money was realized, a full statement of which will be published later.

The programme opened with the National Anthem, played by the Tousewei Orchestra, which contributed its services for the occasion. Prior to the Joan of Arc series, a tableaux showing the adoration of the Christ Child by the Shepherds and Angels was given, those taking part being: The Misses Gaillard, Martel, Lowe, Seite, Vallet, Varalda, B. White, Dunne, Shirdan, and T. White.

The six pictures in the life of the Maid of Orleans were beautifully done, and Miss E. Racine, who appeared in the title rôle, was warmly applauded for her excellent work. Miss A. Jedlicka took the part of Jeannette, while the three voices of St. Michael, St. Catherine and St. Marguerite, were represented by the Misses Bridou, A. and J. Jedlicka. The angels were the Misses Bridou, Fairchild, Lowe and Racine. The song of Joan of Arc was sung by the St. Joseph's choir in sympathetic

ic manner, while the Lorraine march by Eanne, was played by the orchestra. Miss Jansen played Gounod's "Vison of Joan of Arc" as a violin solo in her usual pleasing style, and Madame de Blanck sang the Marseillaise with great feeling, to the accompaniment of the orchestra, the three violins being played by Mrs. Muller and the Misses Jansen and Kermani, and the piano by Miss Culty. This closed a programme which reflected the highest credit on all those taking part.

The Committee of the St. Monica's Society wish to tender thanks to M. and Madame Darré, to whose untiring energy in organizing the tableaux is due so much of the success.

CHARGE AGAINST A POLICEMAN.

HAWKERS' STATEMENTS IN THE MIXED COURT.

An interesting case occupied the attention of Mr. Garstin (British Assessor) and Magistrate Kuan at the Mixed Court on December 31, when a Chinese constable named Tsang Tsz-woo was charged with unlawfully, corruptly and by pretext and colour of his office attempting to extort money from hawkers.

Mr. K. E. Newman appeared for the prosecution, the accused being defended by Mr. Musso.

In explaining the case, Mr. Newman said that it arose from the dismissal of a constable a little while ago for bribery. In consequence it became the duty of the inspector in charge of the Central Police Station to warn the other Chinese constables against bribery and corruption. The constables were told by an interpreter, who informed Inspector Vaughan that he knew of a similar case. Inquiries were made, and four hawkers were found in Shantung Road who said that the accused had repeatedly demanded thirty cents. Since the case was first started, a petition had been sent in to the Captain Superintendent of Police by the friends of the accused, who was a Mohammedan, and it would really be a question for the Court to decide whether the story of the hawkers was a true one or not.

According to the witnesses for the prosecution, the accused, whose beat was in Shantung Road, was in the habit of demanding money of the hawkers in consideration for which they would be allowed to have their stalls in the roadway. On December 11, conversation was overheard between the accused and one of the complainants, during which the hawker said that other members of his calling had refused to pay any money. The accused thereupon smacked the hawker in the face, kicked him and threatened to take him to the station.

Inspector Vaughan was cross-examined at length by Mr. Musso, during which he said that no licences were issued to hawkers and when the interpreter told him that these men were in the habit of standing in the street he was practically telling him that they were committing an offence, as they were not allowed to stand there.

The case was adjourned.

PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS.

REPORT OF SHANGHAI SOCIETY FOR DECEMBER.

The following is a list of the cases of cruelty brought before the Mixed Court in December:

On Friday, December 11, before Mr. Garstin, British Assessor, and Magistrate Wong, Tsung Zau-foo, coolie, was charged with cruelly illtreating a number of turkeys by overcrowding them in crates on The Bund at 8.15 p.m., December 10. Bail \$5.00 forfeited to go to S. S. P. C. A.

On Saturday, December 19, before Dr. Schirmer, German Assessor, and Magistrate Kuan, Loh Ah-foh, coolie, was charged with cruelly illtreating a number of turkeys by overcrowding them in crates at Chapoo Road Bridge at 7.20 a.m. December 19. He was fined \$3.00.

On Tuesday, December 22, before Mr. Johnson, American Assessor, and Magistrate Kuan, Wong Doo-kung, coolie, was charged with cruelly illtreating a number of chickens by overcrowding them in crates on Park Road at 8.50 a.m., December 19. He was fined \$1.00.

On Tuesday, December 22, before Mr. Johnson, American Assessor, and Magistrate Kuan, two coolies named Tsang Loong-zen and Tsang Loong-kwang, were charged with cruelly illtreating a number of chickens by overcrowding them in crates on Bubbling Well Road at 9.15 a.m., December 20. They were fined \$1.00 each to go to S. S. P. C. A.

On Saturday, December 26, before Mr. Garstin, British Assessor, and Magistrate Kuan, Tsang Moh-sung, mafoo, in the employ of the Ivy Dairy, was charged with cruelly illtreating a mule by working it attached to a milk cart on the Si-cawei Road whilst in an unfit condition and suffering from lameness in both hind legs, at 2.15 p.m., December 24. Certified by Dr. Pratt, M.R.C.V.S. He was fined \$3.00 to go to the S.S.P.C.A. and ordered to pay cost of veterinary surgeon's certificate.

On Monday, December 28, before Mr. Garstin, British Assessor, and Magistrate Kuan, Eu Mau-deu, coolie, was charged with cruelly illtreating a number of ducks by overcrowding them in crates on Kiang-se Road, at 4.50 p.m., December 27. He was fined \$3.00 to go to the S.S.P.C.A.

SHANGHAI TRAMWAYS.

The following is the traffic return of the Shanghai Tramways (Foreign Settlement) for the week ended December 30, 1914, with figures for the corresponding week last year:—

	1914.	1913.
	\$	\$
Gross receipts..	23,595.16	22,773.40
Loss by currency depreciation	6,192.02	5,023.96
Effective receipts	17,403.14	17,749.44
Percentage of loss by currency depreciation ...	28.11	23.29
Car miles run	58,651	56,927
Passengers carried	1,023,527	920,993

The following is the traffic return of the Shanghai Tramways (Foreign Settlement) for the month of December 1914, and for twelve months ended December 31, 1914, with figures for the corresponding periods last year:—

	Dec. 1914.	Dec. 1913.
	\$	\$
Gross receipts..	103,970.13	101,110.96
Loss by currency depreciation	27,948.52	22,395.05
Effective receipts	\$76,021.61	\$78,715.91

	12 months ended Dec 31, 1914.	12 months ended Dec 31, 1913.
	\$	\$
Percentage of loss by currency depreciation	28.77	23.39
Car miles run..	261,601	251,405
Passengers carried	4,571,585	4,119,894
Gross receipts	1,292,657.68	1,179,865.19
Loss by currency depreciation	316,669.60	258,809.62
	\$975,988.08	\$921,055.57

	1915.	1914.
	\$	\$
Gross receipts	2,536.59	23,226.17
Loss by currency depreciation	5,953.38	4,935.68
Effective receipts	16,583.21	18,290.49
Percentage of loss by currency depreciation ...	28.27	22.41

The following is the traffic return of the Shanghai Tramways (Foreign Settlement) for the week ended January 6, 1915, with figures for the corresponding week last year:—

	1915.	1914.
	\$	\$
Gross receipts	2,536.59	23,226.17
Loss by currency depreciation	5,953.38	4,935.68
Effective receipts	16,583.21	18,290.49
Percentage of loss by currency depreciation ...	28.27	22.41

Car miles run...	58,111	57,062
Passengers carried	988,549	936,940

LAW REPORTS.

H. M. SUPREME COURT.

Shanghai, Jan. 5.
Before F. S. A. BOURNE, Esq.,
C.M.G., Assistant Judge.

Savoy Hotel v. F. Collins.

The Savoy Hotel sought to recover the sum of \$95.20, being cash advanced and food and sundries supplied during June, July and August, 1914, from Frank Collins.

Mr. C. A. Biddle proved the claim. The defendant did not appear. Judgement was given for the plaintiff.

H. M. POLICE COURT.

Shanghai, Jan. 5.
Before G. W. KING, Esq.,
Police Magistrate.

Rex (S. M. P.) v. F. Ryan.

The case was continued against F. Ryan, of the Chinese Maritime Customs, charged with demanding \$200 by means of menaces from a Chinese, with intent to steal the same.

Mr. K. E. Newman appeared to prosecute, the accused being represented by Mr. E. W. Godfrey. Mr. A. S. P. White Cooper watched the case on behalf of the Customs.

Sergt. Mackenzie, of the Hongkew Police station, stated that a little after five o'clock on the afternoon of December 24 the accused went into the charge room, and asked what the regulations were concerning the conveying of opium in the Settlement. Witness told him that he ought to know, and mentioned the fact that the police had nothing to do with the carrying of opium. The accused made a similar inquiry in October, and on that occasion he was given the information. During the evening of December 24 two Chinese went to the station and made a complaint about the accused.

In reply to Mr. Godfrey, Sergt. Mackenzie said that in October the accused went to the station about 1 a.m., and had a packet which he said contained opium and which he had found on the str. Siangyang Maru. He asked then what the regulations were concerning the transit of opium in the Settlement.

The owner of the opium shop gave evidence to the effect that he legally dealt in opium from Malwa, and paid the Customs' duties and akin, which amounted to about Tls. 396 per chest. He had paid about Tls. 200,000 in two years.

Mr. C. P. Dawson, of the Customs, detailed the duties of the accused, and said that on December 24 he was on duty from 7 a.m. until 5 p.m. He had no duties on shore, and was specially forbidden to interfere with anything on shore.

This closed the case for the prosecution, after which Mr. Godfrey submitted that no case had been made out by the prosecution. It had to be proved that the threat—if threat there was—was such as to create fear in the mind of the complainant which took away from him voluntary action.

His Worship said the accused had placed himself in such a position that he must call for the defence, and the hearing was adjourned until next day.

Jan. 6.

In opening the case for the defence, Mr. Godfrey said the story of the accused was that he was in a coffee house when he received information from a Chinese informer that a large quantity of opium was shortly to be brought aboard the str. Loongwo. The informer a little afterwards told him that the opium had been taken to a shop in Seward Road. The accused went to the shop, accompanied by an acquaintance named Bech, and found the complainant who admitted that the parcels then in his possession contained opium. The complainant agreed to go to the police station and sent for another man. Accused sent Bech out for a foreign policeman, but he could not find one. All parties then went to the Hongkew Police Station, where the accused went into the charge-room and asked the sergeant in charge if the police could take possession of opium in transit through the streets. The sergeant said that the police only had to do with licences, and could not take possession of opium. Accused then left the police station, and told the complainant to go away.

Accused denied that there was any suggestion or demand of a payment of \$200, and said that the complainant was joined by other Chinese after leaving the police station and someone then shouted out that he, the accused, wanted \$200.

At the conclusion of the accused's evidence Bech was called to corroborate.

Counsel on both sides having addressed the Court, Mr. King explained that as the case was being tried summarily he had to look at it from the same point of view as a jury would have done had the prisoner been committed for trial in the other Court. He had to decide whether the threat alleged to have been made in the shop was actually made in the manner alleged by the prosecution.

After carefully reviewing all the evidence he could not feel justified in finding that Ryan had been guilty of this blackmail, though his

conduct was very foolish. The benefit of any doubt which might exist in his mind must be given to the accused. His Worship laid special stress on the fact that the conduct of the accused after coming out of the police station did not seem to be the conduct of a man who was attempting blackmail.

The charge was dismissed.

Rex v. Gulab Singh and Others.

Four Indians, named Gulab Singh, Bishen Singh, Amar Singh and Tilko Singh were charged with being concerned together with publicly offering insult to a burial service belonging to a religion observed in China, to wit, the Sikh religion, contrary to Article 76 of the Order in Council, 1904.

Captain E. I. M. Barrett appeared for the Police.

His Worship said he noticed that the charge was laid under article 76 of the Order, the words of which were "publicly insults a religion established or observed," and it seemed to him that the religion of the Sikhs did not come within the four walls of the Article. His reading of the Article was that it meant religions contiguous to China, and should be Buddhism, Taoism and Mohammedanism. If a British subject went into a Buddhist temple and insulted the people who went there it would be very hard to deal with the case under English law. He did not say that the present case should be dismissed, but he thought that it came under Article 83 of the Order. That related to a breach of the peace, and he could not think of anything more likely to cause a breach of the peace than offering insult at a religious service.

Captain Barrett submitted that Article 76 applied to the case. The accused, he said, were drunk, and on December 31 they desecrated a dead body and insulted the Granthi, who was advised to leave the burial ground. The men then proceeded to the Gurdwara, went into the consecrated room with their boots on and demanded sacrament from the assistant Granthi. The Granthi and his assistants were very much frightened, and they and the property of the Gurdwara were at present under police protection. The Sikh religion must be observed, said Captain Barrett, especially at this time when the men were somewhat upset about things at home. He asked for a remand in order that the question as to which Article applied could go before a higher authority.

Evidence of the arrest of three men was then given, Amar Singh giving himself up at the Central station.

The case was adjourned until Thursday morning, his Worship telling the accused that their position was a very serious one, and that he could not entertain any question of bail. They were therefore remanded in custody.

Jan. 7.

At the adjourned hearing the charge was amended to one of being guilty of indecent behaviour at a burial service, which conduct was likely to produce a breach of the peace. They were further charged with threatening the Assistant Granthi at the Gurdwara, and with being drunk and disorderly at the Rifle Range and on the Municipal Council roads.

Mr. K. E. Newman appeared to prosecute, and Captain Barrett was also present in Court.

Arising out of the discussion which took place at the last hearing of the case, his Worship said that he was still of the opinion that Article 76 of the Order in Council did not apply, and the present charge was therefore taken out under Article 83.

Mr. Newman said the case was a very serious one, as serious a one as could be brought under the particular section. The effect on the Sikh community in general if such a disgraceful act were allowed to go unpunished would be very considerable in Shanghai, and he asked his Worship, if he thought the offence proved, to inflict as serious a punishment as possible. Every religion looked upon the desecration of a dead body as those of the Christian religion did, and some religions considered it in a more serious light even than that. The offence in that case was that not only did the accused pour spirits on to the dead body, but they used insulting words and threw a book at it. The accused seemed to have had some imaginary cause of complaint against the Granthi, and that was the way in which they proposed to "get even." There was no reason why they should have gone to the service at all. Evidently the affair was prearranged, and the men went there under the influence of drink.

The evidence given by S. P. S. 94 was to the effect that on December 31 he, with others, attended the Rifle Range to cremate the body of a Sikh. Shortly after he arrived, the accused came on the burial ground. Two of them had bottles of spirits, and all four were under the influence of drink. They insulted the Granthi, and wanted to assault him, whereupon the witness stepped between them, and he was then insulted. The accused also threatened to strike the Granthi, and after going away they came back again. Amar Singh poured spirits over the body when it was placed on the pyre, and the witness shortly afterwards left with the Granthi. He persuaded the Granthi to leave because he was afraid the accused would cause trouble. The service was left to other people, the Granthi going to the police for protection.

On the case being resumed in the afternoon, the Granthi gave

evidence, and detailed the circumstances of the incident. He said that on December 31 he went to the Rifle Range for the purpose of cremating a body. He had the wood laid, and when the body had been placed upon it, the four accused went up. Two of them had a bottle of wine each, and they poured some of the contents into the mouth of the deceased. They went away three or four times, and when the witness commenced to pray they began swearing at him. As he was leaving the ground, the men threatened to assault him, and used bad language. He had never had any trouble with the accused men, and he could not account for them wanting to insult him.

Mr. F. Ellis, who appeared during the afternoon on behalf of the accused, applied for an adjournment, and the men were remanded in custody until Monday morning.

PASSENGERS.

INWARD.

Per str KUTWO, Dec. 30.—From Hankow—Miss E. L. Ridgeby.
Per str SHAOHSING, Dec. 30.—From Hongkong—Mrs. Fraser, and baby.
Per str KIANGTSEN, Dec. 31.—From Ningpo—Mr. R. B. Paul.
Per str TUCKWO, Dec. 31.—From Hankow—Mr. R. Dder.
Per str LIANGCHOW, Dec. 31.—From Hongkong—Mr. and Mrs. Barnett, Messrs. Reid, Weidemann, and Aaniusen.
Per str LUENYI, Dec. 31.—From Hankow—Miss Williams, and Mr. McLeish.
Per str SIBERIA, Dec. 31.—From Hongkong—Mrs. E. L. Berbling, Mrs. F. Meyer, Mr. and Mrs. Fred. W. Rudd, Misses Ruth Berbling, J. Fuhrmann, and J. Winters, Master Albrecht Berbling, Dr. A. B. Fong, Messrs. S. L. Cox, A. G. Bangly, R. E. Hasbrook, J. G. Lock, J. Lemm, A. Rodger, L. J. Sherman, and F. F. Young.
Per str SHIKZUOKA MARU, Jan. 1.—From Hongkong—Messrs. O. Hoi da, A. H. Luibings, and Chung Sin.
Per str HSIN PEKING, Jan. 1.—From Ningpo—Mr. Wallace.
Per str KINLING, Jan. 1.—From Hankow—Mrs. A. Torrible, and Mr. D. Parkhill.
Per str CHIKUZEN MARU, Jan. 2.—From Japan—Rev. C. C. Weisberg, and Mr. K. Maniwa.
Per str KANCHOW, Jan. 2.—From Hongkong—Mrs. Shaltach, Messrs. Haith Olsen and O. H. Maese.
Per str SHUNTIAN, Jan. 2.—From Tientsin—Mr. Sinclair.
Per str SAKAKI MARU, Jan. 2.—From Dalny—Messrs. O. S. Little, A. Mallatt, Y. Nomura, W. Hobbs, Ching, Concoff, and S. Takashims.
Per str KWANGPING, Jan. 2.—From Chinwangtao—Mr. and Mrs. McCarthy and 2 children.
Per str DUMBEA, Jan. 3.—From Marseilles—Revs. Kermanz and Figgelman, Messrs. Furueau and Guer z. From Singapore—Mr. G. B. Spicer. From Hongkong—Mr. A. B. Collaco.
Per str HSINPEKING, Jan. 3.—From Ningpo—Messrs. McLeish, Hoase, Wilton, Murokomi, and Yamamoto.
Per str HSIN NINGSHAO, Jan. 3.—From Ningpo—Rev. Bishop Reyuaud, and Rev. Father Arond.
Per str NGANKIN, Jan. 3.—From Hankow—Mr. C. Watkins.
Per str LOONGWO, Jan. 3.—From Hankow—Mrs. Tankin, Messrs. Fairman, G. B. Bream, and S. Spilles.
Per str NILS, Jan. 4.—From London—Mrs. A. M. Deane, Mrs. Talbot, Mrs. A. M.

Cannon and infant Mr. and Enticknap, Mr. and Mrs. Sleeman, child and infant Misses Hoo Hsu, P. Kelly, G. Eubank, J. Stott, A. M. Lees, N. Marchbank, and B. Leggett, Dr. E. S. Sowerby, Capt. Holmwood, and Mr. F. C. Mellington. From Hongkong—Mr. and Mrs. Steen, child and infant, Mrs. and Miss R. D. Manchar, Dr. and Mrs. C. J. Davenport, Mrs. H. Willson and infant, Misses F. Brideaux, F. B. Davenport, Lees, and E. Kirk, Messrs. G. F. Voyce, F. H. Etheridge, G. Kay, W. Ward, G. L. C. Johnson, McNaught.

Per str LUCHOW, Jan. 4.—From Hongkong—Mr. and Mrs. Symington and 2 children, and Mr. Rosenthal.

Per str FOYANG, Jan. 4.—From Hankow—Mrs. Froyman and child.

Per str TUNGCHOW, Jan. 4.—From Tientsin—Mr. and Mrs. Zolib and 3 children, Mr. and Mrs. Aity and child, Misses Orr, Stark, and Voll.

Per str ACADIA, Jan. 5.—From London—Mr. and Mrs. A. M. Taylor, and children, Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Hutton and infant, Mrs. Outney and infant, Mr. and Mrs. Macfarlane and infant, Mrs. Kearney and infant, Mr. and Mrs. Moon and infant, Mrs. Reid, Mrs. C. M. M. and child, Mr. and Mrs. H. T. xworth, Mr. and Mrs. P. Massey, Mr. and Mrs. Buckingham, Misses H. Annie, Chaffer, Taylor, Sheffield, Beckitt, Christenson, C. Hutton, Couling, and Goodchild, Rev. F. S. Drake, Messrs. Ruding, Peh Wha-ho, J. W. Prince, W. Pailing, W. H. Griffith, C. J. W. yne, N. S. Brown, and E. A. See, From Colombo—Rev. and Mrs. A. B. Tidford, From Hongkong—Mr. and Mrs. Mistry and child, Mr. and Mrs. J. Remusat, Mrs. A. R. Lowe, Miss Renard, Capt. J. Pederson, Messrs. Reid, E. A. G. May, J. J. Thompson, C. Lithy, C. D. Bell, Graham, and Henderson.

Per str KIANGTEEN, Jan. 5.—From Ningpo Messrs. G. B. Labelstrom, and W. H. Tappedin.

Per str CHIYUEN, Jan. 5.—From Hongkong—Capt. and Mrs. Stewart and 3 children.

Per str YAMASHIRO MARU, Jan. 6.—From Japan—Rev. and Mrs. H. W. Worley, Mrs. A. M. Hagard, Mrs. G. S. Remington and child, Mr. and Mrs. Smith, Misses E. Garner, Bertha Miller, F. W. Riebs, and F. G. Dixer, Revs. J. M. B. Gill, A. Hoppgartner, and F. F. Field, Dr. H. Gunther, Messrs. G. Thornton, W. Boeddinghaus, J. H. Thomas, W. Medinke, L. C. Hursh, J. Meyer, Hertert Walne, and Shen Cheang-ing.

Per str POLTAVA, Jan. 6.—From Vladivostok—Mrs. M. Goloraschekoff, and Mr. M. Konev, From Navaaki—Mrs. Walker and 4 children, Mrs. Kiku Osumi, and Mr. Jounelosingh.

Per str HSIN NINGSHAO, Jan. 6.—From Ningpo—Messrs. Sheatland, and A. Jorgensen.

Per str KIANGYUNG, Jan. 6.—From Hankow—Messrs. G. Ackerman, and Belville.

Per str HSINCHI, Jan. 6.—From Tientsin—Messrs. W. P. Chard, and E. Fox.

Per str LUENHO, Jan. 6.—From Hankow—Misses S. Paul and Laelli, and Mr. H. Paul.

Per str HIRANO MARU, Jan. 7.—From Japan—Mr. and Mrs. Patterson and child, Mr. and Mrs. Spyer and baby, Dr. and Mrs. Cousland, Mr. and Mrs. Doan, Messrs. H. Kung, A. Doan, and P. Chilvers.

Per str CHENAN, Jan. 7.—From Hongkong—Mr. Lindsay Woods.

Per str NINGSHAO, Jan. 7.—From Hankow—Mrs. Mo gan, Miss Morri-on, and Mr. Yun Yat-shing.

Per str SUIWO, Jan. 7.—From Hankow—Miss Cammelli, Mr. Chas. Eliot, Messrs. J. D. Calk, W. H. Plant, and Lu Wong-ching.

OUTWARD.

Per str TATUNG, Dec. 30.—For Wuhu—Mr. J. L. Bowker. For Hankow—Mr. Hooe.

Per str KIANGTEEN, Dec. 31.—For Ningpo—Miss J. P. Robrback, and Mr. A. Jorgensen.

Per str KIANGYU, Dec. 31.—For Hankow—Messrs. E. Snow, and W. F. H. Herends.

Per str SIBERIA, Jan. 1.—For San Francisco—Mrs. Radseck and 2 children, Mrs.

Ele'man and children, Mrs. Ko ig and 2 children, Mrs. Granman and 3 children, Mrs. H. Heinrich and 2 children, Mrs. Zillish, Mrs. Stoll and children, Mrs. Dzhikora, Mrs. Ohlobo, Mrs. Wunderlich, Mrs. Wiedemann, Mrs. Harwg and children, Mrs. Peermann and child, Mrs. Schlitter and infant, Mrs. Moss and child, Mr. Mittalvery and 2 children, Mrs. Vetter and 2 children, Mrs. Kaul, Mrs. Goring and infant, Mrs. George, Mrs. Dider and 3 children, Mrs. Trotsch, Mrs. Tienhan, Mrs. E. Hiorch and 2 children, Mrs. M. Krewerth and child, Mr. F. G. Lawge and child, Mrs. Reian r, Misses L. M. Nash, Watkin on, Elad Weeks, Deoa Greve, Frey, Berger, and Beck, Dr. Faber, and Mr. H. George Jin oh. For Washington—Mr. C. S. Gauss. For New York—Miss Mabe, Woodruff. For London—Mr. and Mrs. Wong Kwong. For Boston—Miss Annie L. Lowe. For Philadelphia—Miss E. L. Ridgely. For Yokohama—Mr. W. D. Ho, son. For Nagasaki—Messrs. J. W. C. meron, and T. Wada.

Per str SHAOHSING, Jan. 1.—For Hongkong—Messrs. John Groves, and Y. O. Baba. For Canton—Mr. Foorde.

Per str LUENYI, Jan. 1.—For Hankow—Mr. Herensperger.

Per str KINLING, Jan. 2.—For Wuhu—Mr. and Mrs. H. van Dyck. For Hankow—Miss D. Brodie, Messrs. Himrod, and Seitz.

Per str SHUNTIAN, Jan. 5.—For Chefoo—Mr. and Mrs. Bryan, Miss Alice Kramthen, and Rev. J. B. Maviel.

Per str KANGHONG, Jan. 6.—For Hongkong—Mr. and Mrs. Wedemeyer, Messrs. A. McVean, and Timbrell.

Per str LOONWOW, Jan. 6.—For Hankow—Mrs. E. K. Chandler, and Mrs. J. H. McMichael.

Per str KOBE MARU, Jan. 6.—For Tsingtao—Messrs. N. L. Armitage, S. Bayes-Davy, Douglas Bishop Verry, G. T. Wilson, Y. Nomura, P. H. Bowen, and Y. Kato. For Dairen—Mr. R. B. Wato.

Per str KIANGTSUN, Jan. 6.—For Ningpo—Mr. R. B. Paul.

Per str NGANKIN, Jan. 6.—For Hankow—Mr. J. A. Offer.

Per str HAEAN, Jan. 6.—For Foochow—Mr. Lemm.

Per str CHOYSANG, Jan. 6.—For Swatow—Mr. H. G. Allen.

Per str HAEAN, Jan. 6.—For Foochow—Messrs. Benwell, and Win McLish.

Per str HSINKONG, Jan. 6.—For Swatow—Messrs. E. Kupner, and J. Jacobsen.

Per str HSINPEKING, Jan. 6.—For Ningpo—Messrs. Williams, and Mr. Lancaster.

Per str FOYANG, Jan. 6.—For Hankow—Mr. and Mrs. Carmichael, Misses Riebs, and Dexter.

Per str TUNGCHOW, Jan. 7.—For Tientsin—Mr. and Mrs. Falconer, Mr. and Mrs. Tuxworth, Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Hutton and child.

Per str LUCHOW, Jan. 7.—For Hongkong—Mr. and Mrs. McCarty and 2 children, Mr. and Mrs. Thorburn, Mrs. Howard, and Mr. Bell.

Per str LUENHO, Jan. 7.—For Hankow—Mr. and Mrs. Macfarlane and child, Mrs. Kearney and child, and Mr. I. S. W. Bieden.

Per str TUNGCHOW, Jan. 7.—For Tientsin—Mr. Hurst.

Per str CHIYUEN, Jan. 8.—For Hongkong—Rev. Hopfgartner.

BIRTHS.

COWAN.—On December 24, 1914, at 20 Summerside Place, Leith; the wife of Wm. G. Cowan, of a daughter.

DENT.—On January 4, 1915, at Lausanne, Switzerland, the wife of Robert Vyvyan Dent, of a son (Louis Vyvyan).—By telegram.

GRUNSELL.—On January 6, 1915 at the Shanghai Railway Hospital, to Mr. and Mrs. S. Grunsell, a son.

McGILLIVRAY.—On January 4, 1915, at Shanghai, the wife of John McGillivray, of a daughter.

DEATH.

ALLAN.—On December 7, 1914 at the Jubilee Hospital, Victoria, B.C., Charles Pasedag Allan, formerly of Shanghai.

SICAWAI METEOROLOGICAL REPORT

Day of Month	Barometer.		Wind.		Hygrometer.		Thermometer in Shade		Weather condition
	9 A.M.	Attached Therm.	Direction.	Force	Dry	Wet	Max.	Min.	
Dec. 25	30.37	51.3	N by N E	1	45.9	42.8	53.0	37.1	B.
" 26	30.44	50.9	N W by N	1	40.3	37.8	50.0	32.7	B.
" 27	30.58	48.4	N E	1	40.3	35.8	49.5	29.3	B.
" 28	30.59	48.8	N	0	39.6	36.7	50.0	27.0	C.
" 29	30.43	47.7	N E by E	1	43.0	40.7	56.1	25.2	B.
" 30	30.20	50.4	S by S E	2	51.8	48.6	65.7	40.5	B.
" 31	30.48	52.2	N N E	3	46.1	42.4	47.4	43.7	O.M.
Jan. 1	30.43	50.2	N E by N	2	42.1	38.9	47.3	39.7	O.M.
" 2	30.41	48.9	Calm.	0	41.5	38.5	45.9	39.0	O.M.
" 3	30.53	48.9	N W by N	2	39.6	36.7	.0	36.4	B.C.
" 4	47.7	47.7	N N E	1	40.3	37.4	.7	34.7	O.M.
" 5	46.8	46.8	N N E	1	40.3	39.9	43.5	36.9	O.M.D.R.
" 6	47.7	47.7	N E	1	48.6	46.1	50.9	.4	O.M.
" 7	30	47.7	W N W	1	39.9	39.2	—	38.	O.D.R.

B—blue sky F—fog L—lightning O—overcast (dull) S—snow Z—calm
C—clouds H—hail M—misty (hazy) R—rain T—thunder

SHANGHAI THERMOMETER READINGS FOR THE WEEK

In the open air in a shaded situation in the Foreign Settlement.

Date	Thermometer (Fahr.)				Rainfall	
	Minimum		Maximum		Inches	
Dec. 31	1914	1913	1914	1913	1914	1913
	42.0	21.0	56.0	42.0	Nil.	Nil.
	1915	1914	1915	1	1915	1914
Jan. 1	40.5	30.0	45.8	57.4	Nil.	Nil.
" 2	40.0	35.0	44.0	46.2	Trace.	Nil.
"	37.0	26.0	41.0	57.0	Nil.	
"	37.0	26.0	43.0	57.0	0.05	
" 5	37.5	36.8	43.2	63.0	0.21	
"	41.6	40.0	49.0	61.0	0.	
"	38.2	26.0	46.2	44.0	0.	

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Clarke, Son & Platt, 95 Gracechurch St.;
Cowie & Co., 17 Gresham Street;
Samuel Deacon, 7 Leadenhall Street;
Henry Sell, 167 Fleet Street;
W. M. Wills, 151 Cannon Street;
Mather & Crowther, Lr 10 New Bridge Street, E.C.;
Gordon & Gotch, 15 St. Bride Street
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P. F. LAVERS, Secretary.

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Makes the Skin as
SOFT AS VELVET, and keeps it
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DURING THE SUMMER HEAT

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SECTIONS OF THE HARBOUR.

- Upper Section A is between the southern side of the Kiangnan Arsenal Dock and the Pailien Creek.
- Upper Section B is between the Pailien Creek and the southern end of the Chinese Bund.
- Upper Section C is between the southern and northern ends of the Chinese Bund.
- Northern end of Chinese Bund to upper end of lower Godown of Kinleeyuen Wharf.
 - Upper end of lower Godown of Kinleeyuen Wharf to Yangkingpang Creek.
 - Yangkingpang Creek to southern end of Examination Shed in front of Custom House.
 - Southern end of Customs' Examination Shed to Peking Road Jetty.
 - Peking Road Jetty to Old Dock.
 - Old Dock to Shanghai & Hongkew Wharf Flagstaff.
 - Shanghai & Hongkew Wharf Flagstaff to Old Ningpo Wharf.
 - Old Ningpo Wharf to Birt's Wharf.
 - Birt's Wharf to Shanghai Waterworks Intake.
 - The Shanghai Waterworks Intake to Yangking Creek.
 - Yangking Creek to Cosmopolitan Dock.
- Lower Section is from Cosmopolitan Dock to Tungkou Creek.

WHARVES, DOCKS, BUOYS, ETC.

WITH THEIR ABBREVIATED DENOMINATIONS AND POSITIONS

Vessels are anchored in Tiers in the Sections and lettered according to their position, thus:—
 USA—Upper section A. USC—Upper section C. S—Shanghai Side. P—Pootung Side
 USB—Upper section B. LS—Lower section. C—Centre. BP—Black Point

KNW	Kiangnan Arsenal Wf.	USA. S	CMCW	Ch. Merchants' Central Wf.	6S. S
KNAD	Kiangnan Arsenal Dk.	USA. S	OD	Old Dock	6S. S
CBCW	China Brick Co.'s Wf.	USB. P	SDECJ	S. Dock & Eng. Co.'s Jetty	6S. P
NMTW	Nanmatou Wharf	USB. P	H'teW	Hunt's Wharf	6S. S
TKDUW	Tungkadu Upper Wf.	USC. P	SHW	Sha. & Hongkew Wf.	6&7S. S
TKDD	Tungkadu Dock	USC. P	CMLW	Chi. Merchants' Lower Wf.	7S. S
TKDDW	Tungkadu Dock Wf.	USC. P	ONW	Old Ningpo Wharf	7&8S. S
TKDLW	Tungkadu Lower Wf.	USC. P	WSW	Wayside Wharf	8S. S
MCKPW	Melchers Chang'pang Wf.	USC. P	JNJ	Japanese Naval Jetty	8S. P
LPDW	Laopadu Wharf	USC. P	PWW	Pootung Wf. W. (Jardine's)	9S. P
CERW	Chi. Eastern R. Co.'s Wf.	USC. P	PWE	Pootung W. E. (Jardine's)	9S. P
YKDW	Yangkadu Wharf	USC. P	ND	New Dock	9S. P
WTW	Watung Wharf	1S. P	NDW	New Dock Wharf	9S. P
MLNDW	Melchers Lainidu Wf.	1S. P	CMEW	China Merchants' E. Wf.	LS. P
KLYW	Kinleeyuen Wharf	1&2S. S	YWGW	Yangtze W. & Godown Wf.	LS. P
KLYB	Kinleeyuen Buoy	1&2S. S	CEMCW	Chi. Engineering & M. W. S. P	
CNCW	China Navig. Co.'s Wf.	2S. S	AKOW	Arnhold, Karberg Oil Wf.	S. P
CNCB	China Navig. Co.'s Bys	2S. S	OSCW	Ocean Steamship Co. Wf.	10S. P
CNPW	Ch. Nav. Co.'s Pootung Wf.	2S. P	MBKW	Mitsui Bussan Kaisha Wf.	11S. P
CANW	Compagnie Asiatique Wf.	2S. S	RDOW	Royal Dutch Oil Wharf	11S. P
NGLB	North German Lloyd Buoy	2S. C	Int. D	International Dock	11S. P
MMB	Messageries Maritimes B.	2S. C	Int. DW	International Dock Wf.	11S. P
P&OB1	P. & O. S. N. Co.'s Buoy 1.	3S. C	Cos. D	Cosmopolitan Dock	11S. P
PYB	Pootung Yard Buoy	3S. P	Cos. DW	Cosmopolitan Dock Wf.	11S. P
BNB	British Naval Buoy	3S. C	SOCW	Standard Oil Co.'s Wharf	11S. P
NYKW	Nippon Yusen Kaisha Wf.	5S. S	PL	Powder Limit below Black Point	
BW	Heard's Wharf	5S. S	Q	Quarantine Limit	

The Head and Stern Mooring Berths in the 6th, 7th, and 8th Sections are numbered 1, 2, 3, etc., commencing from opposite the Old Dock.

HSMB 1	Shai. Dock & Eng. Co.	6S. C	HSMB 6	Ch. Merchants' S. N. Co.	7&8S. C
HSMB 2	Indo-China S. N. Co.	6&7S. C	HSMB 7	Hamburg-Amerika Linie	8S. C
HSMB 3	Sh. & Hongkew Wf. Co.	7S. C	HSMB 8	{Nippon Yusen Kaisha}	8S. C
HSMB 4	P. & O. S. N. Co.	7S. C		{Osaka Shosen Kaisha}	
HSMB 5	Ocean Steamship Co.	7S. C	HSMB 9	Austrian Lloyd's S. N. Co.	8S. C

SHANGHAI SEMAPHORE SERVICE.

POSITION OF TIME-BALL: Lat. 31° 14' 7" N.; Long. 121° 29' 103" E. or 4h. 5m. 56.7sec. E. of Greenwich.

READING OF THE BAROMETER.—At 4 p.m. signals indicating the Barometer reading as observed at Sicauei Observatory at 4 p.m. and reduced to 32" and to mean sea-level will be given in inches and tenths of an inch by omitting the 3 of 30 and 2 of 29 or 28. Examples:—025 = 30.25; 994 = 29.94; 898 = 28.98.

LOCAL TIME.—Shanghai mean time is reckoned from the 120th meridian 8h. 0m. 0sec. East of Greenwich.

TIME BALL.—The signal is a ball hoisted at the Semaphore, which is in connexion with the Sicauei Observatory; it is made daily as follows:—

The ball is hoisted half-mast at 11h. 45m. a.m., to the masthead at 11h. 50m. a.m., and drops for the first time at 11h. 55m. Shanghai mean time. The ball is immediately hoisted again to the masthead and drops a second time at noon.

If from whatever cause the time ball fails to drop, or drops at the wrong time, the numeral flag No. 0 will be hoisted at the masthead for one minute, and the noon signal will be tried. If the noon signal should also fail, the same flag will be again hoisted.

A time ball is also dropped at noon from the Customs' signal tower at Pootung Point simultaneously with the firing of a gun.

In addition to the signal given by the Time-Ball at noon, the exact China-east time is given every night by the extinction of the four white lights of the time-signal Tower on the French Bund.

The lights are shown about 2 minutes before the first extinction.

	h.	m.	s.		h.	m.	s.
Time of 1st extinction:	8	58	0.0	Time of 4th extinction:	8	58	0.0
" 2nd "	8	56	0.0	" 5th "	8	59	0.0
" 3rd "	8	57	0.0	" 6th "	9	0	0.0

In case of error or failure, a red light is shown, or preferably the two white lamps of the yard arm are lighted up during a few seconds to annul the wrong signal.—The signals are worked directly from Sicauei Observatory by electric apparatus.

STEAMERS IN HARBOUR AND AT WOOSUNG

Sec.	Name	Ton	Captain	Flag	Arr.	From	Consignees
NGLB 2	Albenga	2789	Carlsen	Ger	Nov 8	Hankow	Carlowitz & Co
10 p	Asama Maru	2788	Nisutawa	Jap	Dec 29	Japan	O Im Fx Lum Co
10 p	Asumasan M	2708	Kikuchi	Jap	Jan 1	Portland Or	M B Kaisha
PWE	Arcadia	3587	Baroharn	Br	Jan 5	London	P & O S N Co
B VI	Bohemia	2805	Tricovich	Aus	Aug 4	Hongkong	A Lloyd S N Co
10 p	Banyei Maru	1784	Kaneyasu	Jap	Jan 7	Hakodate, etc	N Yusen Kaisha
B III	China	3868	Tarabuchi	Aus	Aug 5	Hongkong	A Lloyd S N Co
WTW	Chalister	3399	Galb	Br	Jan 5	Hongkong	Dodwell & Co
B XIII	Chenan	1855	Jones	Br	Jan 7	Hongkong	B & Swire
KLYW	Deike Rickmer	2657	Voerbeck	Ger	Aug 8	Hongkong	Diederichsen & Co
KLYW	Hsinchi	1842	Wilke	Chi	Jan 6	Tientsin	J M S N Co
KLYW	Hsinming	1428	MacKinnon	Chi	Jan 7	Foochow	J M S N Co
KLYB	Hsinfung	1885	Hamblin	Chi	Jan 7	H'kong, Canton	C M S N Co
YKDW	Irene	828	McLean	Chi	Jan 5	H'chow Eching	C M S N Co
KND	Kiangwah	2321	Wade	Chi	Dec 28	Hankow	J M S N Co
KLYW	Kiangfoo	1428	Carlsen	Chi	Jan 4	Hankow	C M S N Co
OWSB	Kungping	1742	Howie	Chi	Jan 7	Hatchow	J M S N Co
KLYW	Kyodo Maru	1218	Kusunoki	Jap	Jan 7	Mitke	M B Kaisha
KLYW	Kwangchi	818	Munro	Chi	Jan 7	W'chow, N'po	C M S N Co
NGLB 1	Meidah	1161	Ratke	Ger	July 18	Hankow	Melchers & Co
NGLB 1	Meilee	1161	Lehmann	Ger	July 30	Hankow	Melchers & Co
HYPW	Meian	481	Barlow	Am	Jan 4	Hankow	Standard Oil Co
NBOW	Ningshao	1317	Murray	Chi	Jan 7	Hankow	Ningshao S N Co
USA	Paoming	513	O'Kane	Chi	Sept 21	Foochow	Foo Hsing S N Co
8 p	Pacific	727	Petersen	Dan	Dec 14	Cruise	G-N Tel Co
B VII	Sikiang	1015	Artelt	Ger	July 30	Kiaochou	H-America Line
B VIII	Silesia	3818	M'tinoli	Aus	July 30	Hongkong	Aus Lloyd S N Co
YTPDW	Siam	3311	Hansen	Dan	Dec 22		East-Asiatic Co
8 p	Store Nordiske	598	O'tiansen	Dan	Dec 22	Cruise	G-N Tel Co
MBKW	Sakai Maru	1188	Ito	Jap	Jan 6	Port Arthur	M B Kaisha
SHW	Suiwo	2871	Sellar	Br	Jan 7	Hankow	J M & Co Ltd
B I	Tonghong	1314	Prynn	Br	Nov 29	Singapore	Geo. McBain
10 p	Tongking	8302	Kruse	Dan	Jan 2	Demark	East-Asiatic Co
TKDD	Tungwah	746	Wallace	Chi	Dec 20	Eching	C M S N Co
BJ	Tungting	1200	Torrible	Br	Dec 28	Hankow	B & Swire
10 p	Taisei Maru	1478	Sumiza	Jap	Jan 5	Japan	Mitsui Bishi Co
US	Tamon Maru	1142	Kasai	Jap	Jan 6	Karatsu	Soruzki & Co
	Tomak	1511	Gienster	Rus	Jan 7	Chefoo	R Volunteer Fleet
LPDUW	Tachang Maru	1681	Takehita	Jap	Jan 7	Hankow	N Kisen Kaisha
ONCW	Wooling Maru	904	Murakami	Jap	Jan 7	Hankow	N Kisen Kaisha
KMAW	Wuohang	1976	Pickard	Br	Jan 7	Hankow	B & Swire
NYKW	Yei Maru	1695	Matsumoto	Jap	Jan 6	Chinwangtao	K M Administration
KLYB	Yamashiro M	2238	Suzuki	Jap	Jan 6	Nagasaki	N Yusen Kaisha
	Yushun	1079	Lezge	Chi	Jan 7	Hongkong	C M S N Co

MEN-OF-WAR

No. & Sec.	Name	Ton	Comdr	Flag & Rating	Guns	Men	Date Arr	Where from
Int DW	D de Lagree			Fr g-b	...	...		
J N J	Fuehimi	180		Jap g-b	...	...		
8 p	Quiros	850	Hannigan	Am g-b	2	...	Dec 28	
BNB	St'iano Caboto		Denti	Ital g-b	...	...	Aug 6	
J N J	Sumida	126		Jap g-b	...	...		
B II	Saratoga	8150	Dayton	Am cru	25	...		
J N J	Toba			Jap g-b	...	...		
WTW	Woodlark	150		Br g-b	...	...		

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DEPARTURES.—Continued.

Date	Name	Tons	Captain	Flag	Destination	Cargo	Dispatched by
Dec 30	Hsin Ningshao	2315	Edgren	Chi	Ningpo	General	Ningshao S N Co
... 31	Tatung	1882	Simerville	Br	H'kow & Ports	do	B & Swire
... 31	Tale Maru	1815	Yasaki	Jap	H'kow & Ports	do	N Kisen Kaisha
... 31	Awaji Maru	1268	Yagiu	Jap	Kobe	do	N Yusen Kaisha
... 31	Tamba Maru	3803	Nagane	Jap	Hongkong	do	N Yusen Kaisha
... 31	Yinschow	1216	Jones	Br	H'ko'g, C'ton	do	B & Swire
... 31	Indraamha	3387	Jones	Br	New York	do	J M & Co Ltd
... 31	Aoson Maru	1921	Suna	Jap	Japan	do	M B Kaisha
... 31	Japan	3263	Paulson	wd	Japan	do	Olof, Wijk & Co
... 31	Shinyi Maru	1886	Nida	Jap	Japan	do	Furukawa & Co
... 31	Kalgan	1148	Laver	Br	H'kong, Canton	do	B & Swire
... 31	Sagittarius	1546	Anderson	Br	Chinwangtao	do	K M A'istration
... 31	Kiangteen	1435	Taylor	Chi	Ningpo	do	O M S N Co
... 31	Yungabin	999	Hudson	Chi	Ningpo	do	Ningshao S N Co
Jan 1	Kakao	1228	Lavers	Br	H'kong, Canton	do	B & Swire
... 1	Feiching	890	Baines	Chi	H'kong, Canton	do	O M S N Co
... 1	Hupei	1205	Cole	Br	H'kong, Canton	do	B & Swire
... 1	Lianchow	1220	Benson	Br	H'kong, Canton	do	B & Swire
... 1	Kiangyu	1490	Milligan	Chi	H'ow & Ports	do	O M S N Co
... 1	Kutwo	1986	Gibb	Br	H'kow & Ports	do	J M & Co Ltd
... 1	Tjikioi	2888	Lap	Dut	Mitke	do	H-C Trading Co
... 1	Yunna	1208	French	Br	Dalny	Ballast	B & Swire
... 1	Kweilin	1037	Mills	Br	Dalny	do	B & Swire
... 1	Shaoehing	1807	Tubben	Br	H'kong, Canton	do	B & Swire
... 1	Aping	1159	Paramore	Chi	H'kong, Canton	General	O M S N Co
... 1	Yohyang Maru	2225	Takano	Jap	H'kow & Ports	do	N Kisen Kaisha
... 1	Simbirsk	1857	Poliakoff	Rus	V'stok, N'aki	do	R Volunteer Fleet
... 1	Kwangohi	816	Munro	Chi	Ningpo W'chow	do	O M S N Co
... 1	Hsin Peking	1724	Stott	Br	Ningpo	Ballast	B & Swire
... 1	Hsin Ningshao	2315	Edgren	Chi	Ningpo	do	Ningshao S N Co
... 1	Siberia	1655	Zeeder	Am	San Francisco	Mails etc	Pacific Mill SS Co
... 2	Luenyi	1735	Fraser	Br	H'kow & Ports	do	B & Swire
... 2	Tuckwo	2855	Phillip	Br	H'kow & Ports	do	J M & Co Ltd
... 2	Koonshing	1838	Wesney	Br	H'kow & Ports	do	J M & Co Ltd
... 2	Hsinyu	1027	Richards	Chi	Foochow	General	O M S N Co
... 2	Ajax	4478	Cumming	Br	Marcellie, etc	do	B & Swire
... 2	Sir R Awdry	1286	Heppel	Br	Chinwangtao	do	K M A'istration
... 2	Omi Maru	2221	Machida	Jap	Japan	do	N Yusen Kaisha
... 2	Vlund	1114	Huibert	Nor	Chinwangtao	do	K M A'istration
... 2	Araka Maru	1208	L'hi	Jap	Japan	do	Furukawa & Co
... 2	Taito Maru	1246	Yamaga	Jap	Takao, Foochow	do	N Kisen Kaisha
... 2	Hakushin Maru	900	Kakihima	Jap	Dalny	do	S M Railway Co
... 2	Yungabin	999	Hudson	Chi	Ningpo	do	Ningshao S N Co
... 2	Kiangteen	1435	Glen	Chi	Ningpo	do	O M S N Co
... 3	Kinling	2511	Newcomb	Br	H'kow & Ports	do	B & Swire
... 3	Shidzuka M	4072	Deguchi	Jap	Seattle, Wash	do	N Yusen Kaisha
... 3	Natlos	3494	Akimoto	Br	Hongkong	do	A Petroleum Co
... 3	Sodegaura M	779	Mikuni	Jap	Japan	do	M B Kaisha
... 3	Fukuyo Maru	1150	Mikuni	Jap	Japan	do	M B Kaisha
... 4	Kiangkwau	1450	Co ley	Chi	H'kow & Ports	do	O M S N Co
... 4	Lihin	1387	Cole	Am	Cruise	do	Customs
... 4	Helena	8220	Williams	Am	Japan	do	M Maritime
... 4	Dumbao	760	Williams	Chi	Cruise	do	Customs
... 4	Liu Hsing	1172	Bertelsen	Nor	Chinwangtao	Ballast	K M A'istration
... 4	Veetfeld	1228	Pike	Br	Tientsin	General	B & Swire
... 4	Iohang	760	Gowing	Br	Cruise	do	Customs
... 4	Chuentiao	2093	Sato	Jap	Dalny	do	S M Railway Co
... 4	Sakaki Maru	3714	Pine	Br	N Y v Manila	do	S Tomes & Co
... 4	City of Naples	999	Wassada	Jap	Japan	do	M B Kaisha
... 4	Jubo Maru	510	Helleooc	Nor	Japan	do	M B Kaisha
... 4	Kjeld	581	Henderson	Chi	Japan	do	HYP Iron & C Co
... 4	Hanping	687	Plummer	Br	Japan	do	Ningshao S N Co
... 4	Sikiang	1227	Cowan	Br	Dalny	do	B & Swire
... 4	Tientsin	1227	Gibbs	Br	Dalny	do	B & Swire
... 4	Pakhoi	1228	Owen	Br	Dalny	do	B & Swire
... 4	Foochow	1724	Stott	Br	Ningpo	do	B & Swire
... 4	Hsin Peking	2151	Edgren	Chi	Ningpo	do	Ningshao S N Co
... 4	Hsin Ningshao	2101	Lindstrom	Chi	H'kow & Ports	do	O M S N Co
... 5	Kianghsin	1458	Wackie	Chi	Chefoo	do	O M S N Co
... 5	Toonan	1034	McIntosh	Br	Hankow	do	B & Swire
... 5	Shengking	1222	Gibbs	Br	H'kong, Canton	do	B & Swire
... 5	Kanchow	1768	Ikedo	Jap	H'kow & Ports	do	N Kisen Kaisha
... 5	Tafoo Maru	937	Cooke	Br	H'kow & Ports	do	Geddes & Co
... 5	Tehhsing	1127	Smith	Br	Wuhu	do	J M & Co Ltd
... 5	Wosang	3320	Nomur	Jap	Japan	do	N Yusen Kaisha
... 5	Hakata Maru	1223	Walker	Br	W. C'foo, T'tain	do	J M & Co Ltd
... 5	Kirg'iniz	1081	N'thcombe	Br	W. C'foo, T'tain	do	B & Swire
... 5	Shuntien	760	Williams	Chi	Cruise	do	Customs
... 5	Liu Hsing	1800	Ito	Jap	Japan	do	Satoh Shokai
... 5	Palo	1648	Ichiji	Jap	Dalny	do	N Kisen Kaisha
... 5	Kaga Maru	1699	Akamoto	Jap	Japan	do	N Yusen Kaisha
... 5	Nitaka Maru	999	Wake	Br	Inland Water	do	B & Swire
... 5	Chikuzen Maru	1243	Waggett	Br	Chinwangtao	do	K M A'istration
... 5	Hangchow	1623	Yajima	Jap	Dalny	do	S M Railway Co
... 5	Kobe Maru	1406	C'sterline	Am	Ningpo	K Oil	Standard Oil Co
... 5	Meifoo	1052	Kinoehita	Jap	Japan	do	M B Kaisha
... 5	Takeshima M	1889	Wasaki	Chi	Tientsin	Gener	K M A'istration
... 5	Foclee	1435	Glen	Chi	Ningpo	do	O M S N Co
... 5	Kiangteen	999	Hudson	Chi	Ningpo	do	Ningshao S N Co
... 5	Yungsh						

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